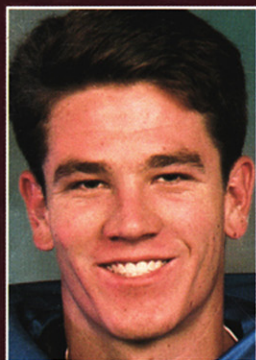


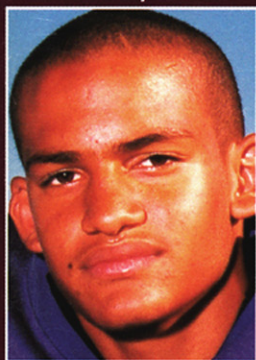
Barry Sollenberger's 1996 Phoenix Metro \$4⁰⁰

FOOTBALL

COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW



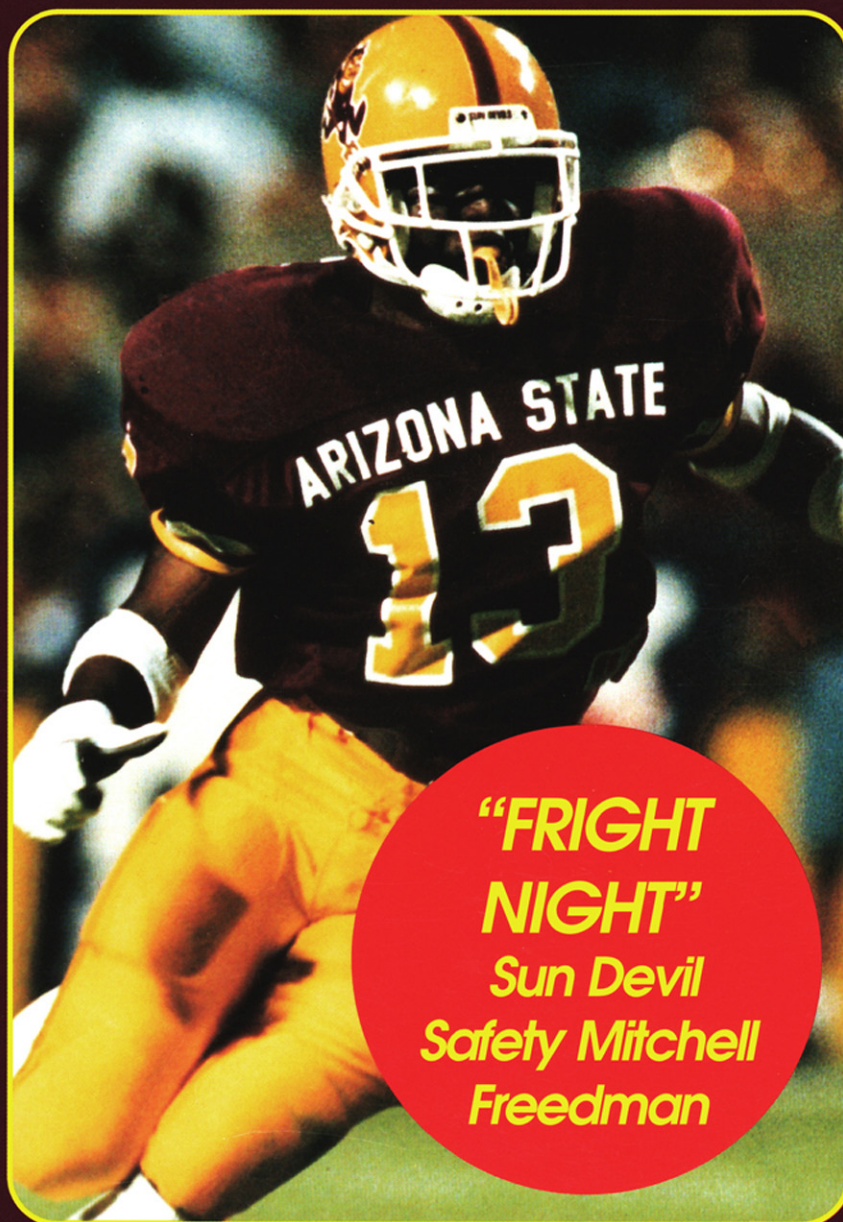
TODD MORTENSEN
Tempe



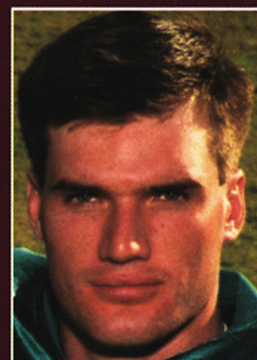
A.J. BROWN
Washington



BRYAN KULA
Brophy Prep



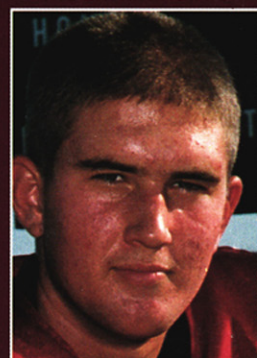
**"FRIGHT
NIGHT"**
Sun Devil
Safety Mitchell
Freedman



JAMES CREASON
Highland



RYAN DUNCAN
Mountain Pointe



ERIN HUIZINGH
McClintock

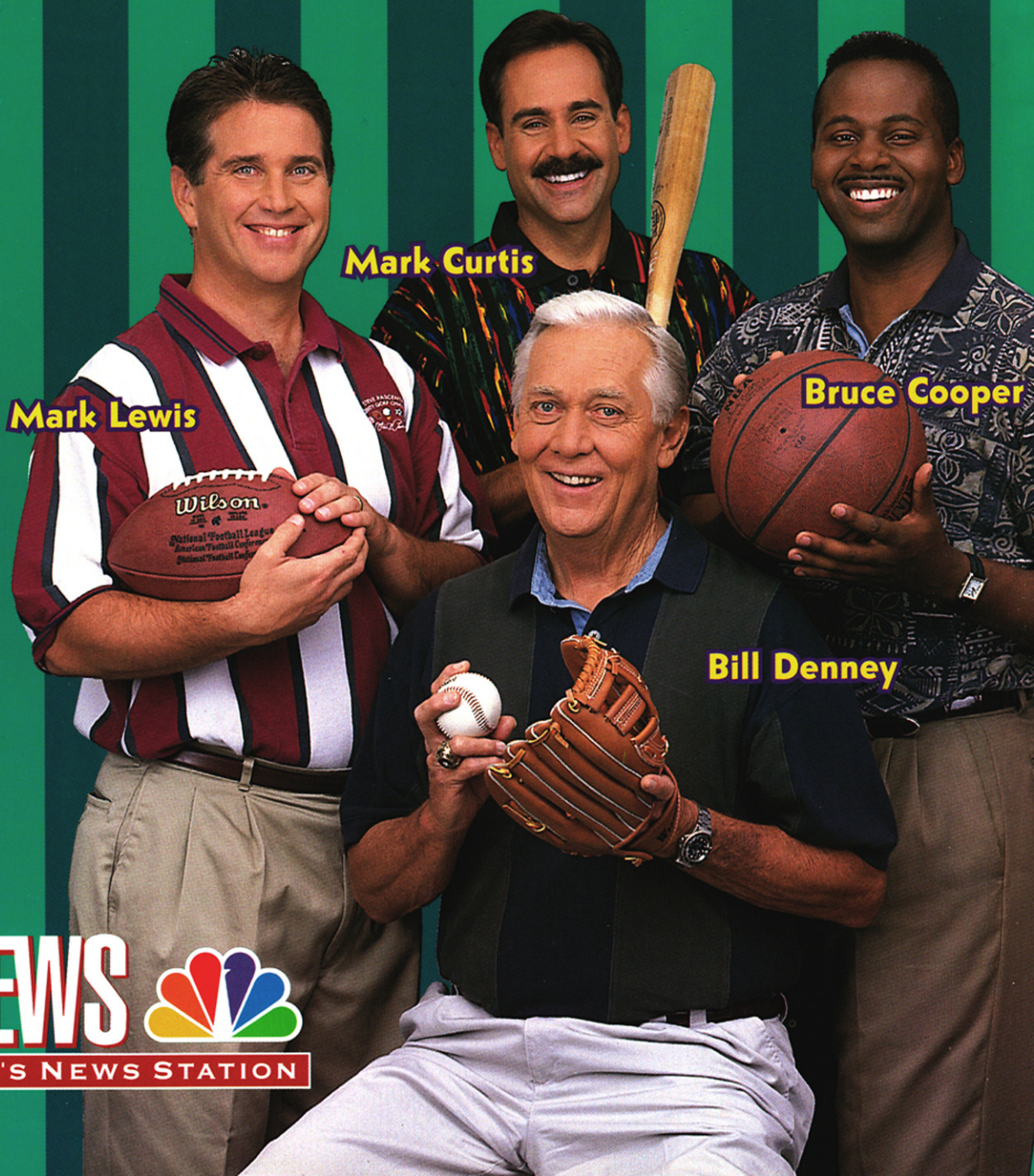
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SUN DEVIL FOOTBALL

ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STAR SHOWCASE

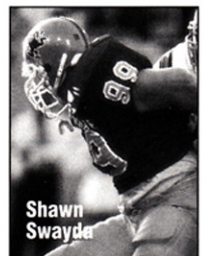
ASU fans are anxiously anticipating the careers of our 1996 recruiting class:

Ryan Kealy	QB	State 5A Champion St. Mary's High School
Tariq McDonald	WR	State 5A Champion St. Mary's High School
Jason Moore	TE	6'5", All Arizona tight end from Horizon HS
Stephen Trejo	LB	All Arizona LB'r from Casa Grande HS
Quincy Yancy	DE	6'7" All Arizona DE from Glendale Ironwood HS

These freshman will join pre-season all Pac-10 first team safety Mitchell Freedman of Maryvale HS, TE Steve Bush, 6'3", 260 lb three year letter winner from Paradise Valley HS, Shawn Swayda, 6'4", 279 lb DT



Mitchell/
Freedman



Shawn
Swayda

from Brophy Prep, Brent Burnstein, 6'8", 280 lb DE from Deer Valley HS, and 6'4" All Arizona WR Kenny Mitchell of Peoria HS in what will be the most exciting Sun Devil Football season of the decade.

Don't miss the excitement of watching former Arizona High School/ASU stars in the NFL in 1996:

Mario Bates	Run. Back	New Orleans Saints	Amphitheater
Eddie Cade	Safety	New England Patriots	Eloy HS
Eric Guliford	WR'r	Carolina Panthers	Peoria HS
Bryan Hooks	DT	St. Louis Rams	Marcos de Niza HS
Jason Kyle	LB'r	Seattle Seahawks	McClintock HS
Randall McDaniel	Off. Guard	Minnesota Vikings	Agua Fria HS
Kevin Miniefield	Corner	Chicago Bears	Camelback HS
Anthony Parker	Corner	St. Louis Rams	McClintock HS
Phillippi Sparks	Corner	New York Giants	Maryvale HS
Danny Villa	Off. Line	Kansas City Chiefs	Nogales HS
Darren Woodson	Safety	Dallas Cowboys	Maryvale HS

1996 ASU FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

SEPT. 7	WASHINGTON
SEPT. 14	NORTH TEXAS
SEPT. 21	NEBRASKA
SEPT. 28	OREGON
OCT. 5	BOISE ST.
OCT. 19	USC
NOV. 9	CALIFORNIA

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FOOTBALL

COMPLETE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PREVIEW

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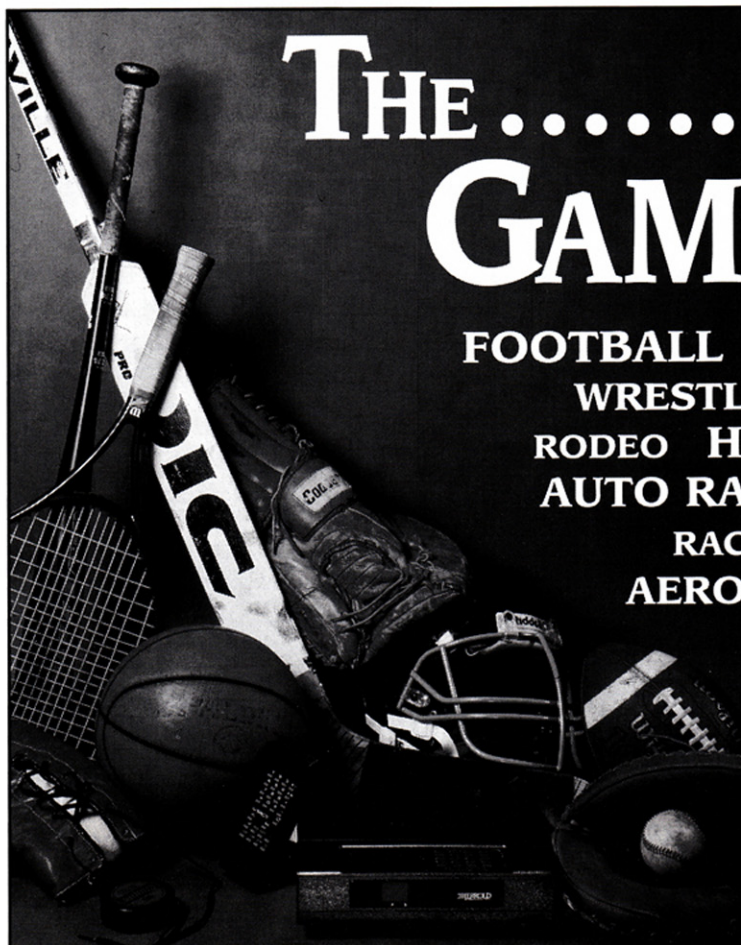
**YESTERDAY'S HEROES:
'46 Belonged
to the
Whizzer
(see page 16B)**



With Coolidge defenders in hot pursuit, Mesa's Wilford "Whizzer" White streaks 78 yards to the Bears' end zone (see Yesterdays's Heroes).

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THE.....: PLAN

GAME.....:

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WRESTLING GYMNASTICS FISHING
RODEO HOCKEY BOXING BASEBALL
AUTO RACING HORSE RACING RUGBY
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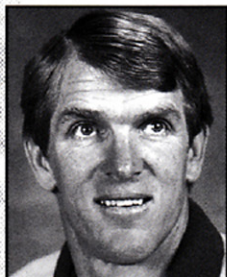
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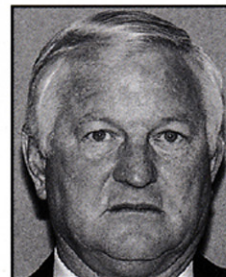
Jeff Scurran
Sabino



Paul Moro
Blue Ridge



Bill McKane
Mesa



Jerry Loper
Chandler



Mike Morgan
St. Johns

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.886 .. Bill McKane, Mesa (31-4-0)
.879 .. Bill House, Independence (87-12-1)
.878 .. Mike Morgan, St. Johns (72-10-1)
.817 .. Paul Moro, Blue Ridge (107-24-0)
.802 .. Doug Clapp, Peoria (101-25-3)
.788 .. Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's (175-47-3)
.782 .. Jeff Cude, Kearny Ray (43-12-0)
.773 .. Vince Cahill, Mayer (75-22-1)
.771 .. Neil Westover, Snowflake (27-8-0)
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.736 .. Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe (248-89-3)
.727 .. Mike Epperson, Gilbert Highland (24-9-0)
.721 .. Ed Shamey, Thatcher (93-36-1)
.720 .. Keith Brown, Phoenix Christian (36-14-0)
.717 .. Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi (225-89-2)
.704 .. Jay Denton, Eloy Santa Cruz (88-37-1)
.698 .. Ken Guzik, Safford (74-32-0)
.696 .. Reynaldo Peru, Morenci (39-17-0)
.684 .. Steve Chisman, Phx. Washington (67-31-4)
.682 .. Tom Bushong, Tolleson Westview (15-7-0)
.680 .. Jerry Loper, Chandler (221-104-10)
.674 .. Steve Moran, Bradshaw Mountain (87-42-1)
.674 .. Tom Wheatley, North Canyon (130-63-3)
.658 .. Doug Lange, Arizona Lutheran (50-26-0)
.657 .. Curt Palmer, Mesa Westwood (23-12-0)
.644 .. Craig Holland, Flagstaff (58-32-0)

Winning Pct./Coach/School/Record

.642 .. Doug Shaffer, Scott. Horizon (79-44-2)
.640 .. Rick Werbylo, Canyon del Oro (48-27-0)
.637 .. Bill Mitton, Trevor Browne (172-98-2)
.629 .. Mont Griffiths, Fredonia (143-84-4)
.628 .. Bill Gahn, Sunrise Mountain (113-67-6)
.618 .. Bob Lambie, Paradise Valley (60-37-0)
.614 .. Greg Parrish, Glendale Apollo (86-54-4)
.607 .. Cleveland Dansby, South Mtn. (48-31-0)

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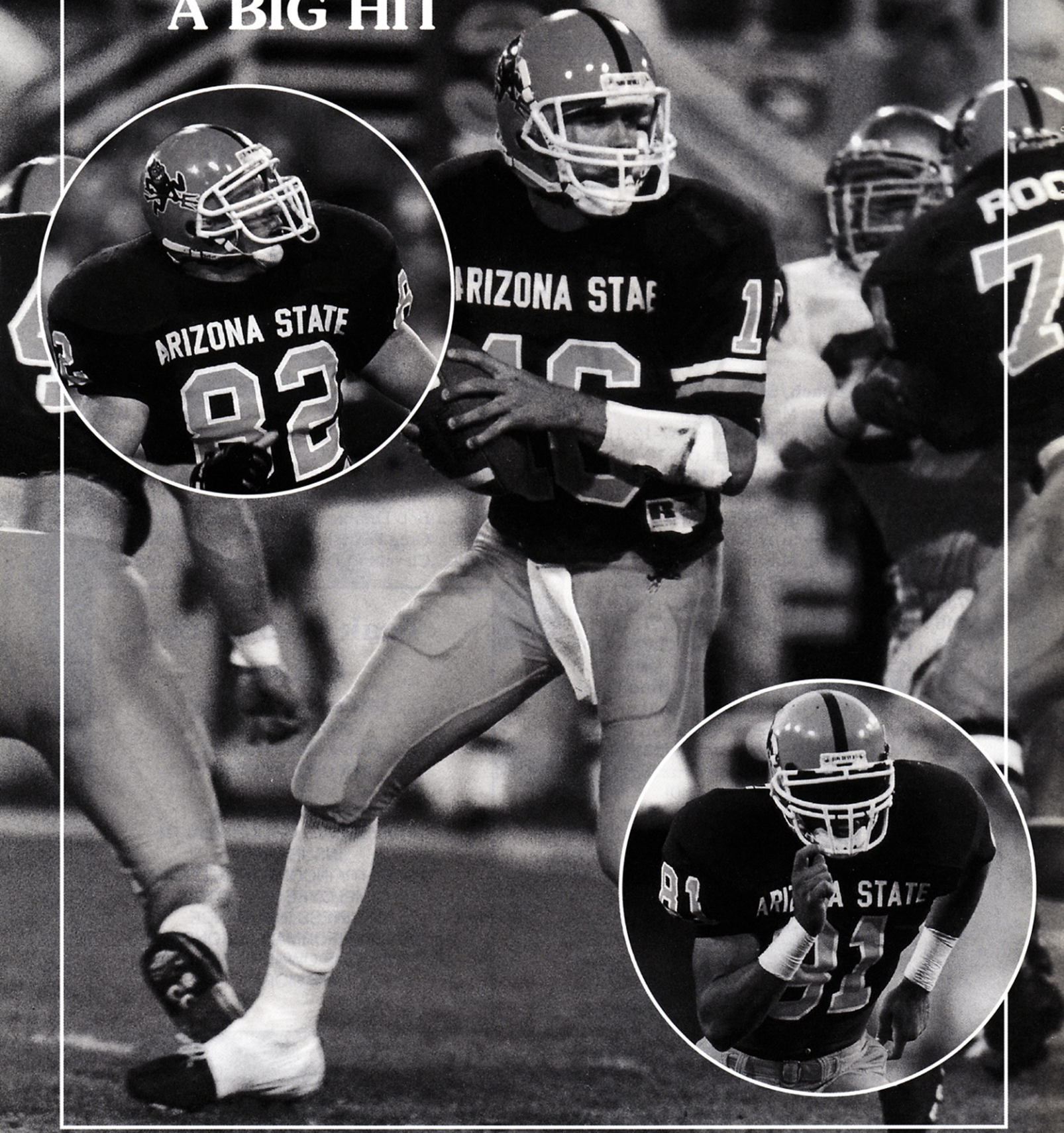
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(Background photo former legendary Mesa coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford)

SUN DEVIL AERIAL SHOW A BIG HIT



By Joseph Barry Sollenberger

If offense sells tickets and defense wins championships, Arizona State might be set. Dare we say bowl?

For 1996, the Sun Devils return nine offensive starters and eight starting defenders from a 6-5 club which missed a bowl invitation by losing to Arizona in the season finale.

Still, the big question will be defense. Although most of the starting unit returns, this group as a whole hasn't stopped anybody since they've been in college.

Offensively, A-State returns three first team all-Pac-10 performers. The Devils' junior passing tandem of Jake Plummer and Keith Poole (photo at left) and junior tackle Juan Roque earned first-team honors as selected by the conference coaches. All three are pumped for their senior season.

Plummer (6-2, 190) completed 173 of 301 passes for 2,222 yards with 17 touchdowns. Only nine passes were intercepted. The senior-to-be from Boise, Idaho was ASU's first all-conference quarterback since Mike Pagel in 1981. Poole (6-2, 185) finished the year with 55 catches for 1,036 yards and seven touchdowns. During a 77-28 loss to Nebraska, Poole caught six passes for 200 yards and two touchdowns, including an 80-yarder - in the first half. He caught nine passes for 167 yards and scored twice (once on a reverse) during a 37-33 upset of UCLA.

Roque (6-8, 319), an Outland Trophy and Lombardi Award candidate, allowed only one quarterback sack all year. Plummer is a contender for both the Davey O'Brien and Johnny Unitas awards, while Poole is a Fred Biletnikoff Award candidate.

Wideouts Isaiah Mustafa (6-4, 216) and Kenny Mitchell (6-3, 198), the former Peoria High star (photo insert), and

SUN DEVIL NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
QB	Ryan Kealy	6-2, 195	Phoenix (St. Mary's)
RB	Darrin Ransom	6-0, 210	Union City (Logan), Calif.
RB	J.R. Redmond	6-1, 190	Carson (Carson), Calif.
RB	Terrelle Smith	6-2, 230	Moreno Valley (Canyon Springs), Calif.
WR	Tariq McDonald	6-1, 175	Phoenix (St. Mary's)
TE	Jason Moore	6-6, 230	Scottsdale (Horizon)
WR	Creig Spaan	6-0, 175	Phoenix Junior College
OL	Dane Beem	6-5, 265	Atascadero (Atascadero), Calif.
OL	Jeff Johannesen	6-5, 305	Scottsdale (Horizon)
OL	Kaleb Ramsay	6-3, 295	Salem (McKay), Ore.
OL	Korey Ramsey	6-3, 290	Salem (McKay), Ore.
OL	Marvel Smith	6-6, 300	Oakland (Skyline), Calif.
LB	Derrick Rodgers	6-3, 225	Riverside Junior College
LB	Stephen Trejo	6-3, 230	Casa Grande (Casa Grande)
DL	Che' Britton	6-1, 250	Los Angeles (Dorsey)
DL	Victor Leyva	6-4, 290	Porterville (Monache), Calif.
DL	Jeremy Staat	6-6, 280	Bakersfield Junior College
DL	Craig Sweasy	6-4, 262	Atascadero (Atascadero), Calif.
DL	Quincy Yancy	6-8, 220	Glendale (Ironwood), Ariz.
DB	J'Juan Cherry	6-1, 190	Berkeley (Berkeley), Calif.
DB	Christon Rance	6-2, 190	San Francisco (Sacred Heart)

tight end Steve Bush (photo insert) of Paradise Valley, give A-State more firepower than usual. Teams who double up on Poole will pay for it.

The entire offensive line returns, including three-deep at all five positions. Center Kirk Robertson (6-5, 305), tackle Grey Ruegamer (6-5, 287, so.), and guards Pat Thompson (6-2, 336) and Kyle Murphy (6-4, 298, jr.) join Roque in the trenches.

Veteran running backs include juniors Michael Martin (6-1, 209) and Terry Battle (5-11, 195). These two, along with graduated Chris Hopkins and Ryan Wood (Dallas Cowboys), did not lose a fumble in 11 games last year. Marlon Farlow (5-10, 199) is an explosive back who was red-shirted.

Inexperience is no longer the word when the defense takes the field. A-State returns players at nine positions, including its three top tacklers. It will be this phase of the sport that could make or break the season.

Senior inside linebacker Scott Von der Ahe (6-0, 247), the team's runaway leader in tackles, and senior outside backer Derek Smith (6-2, 232), both started all 11 games. The third spot could go to junior Pat Tillman (5-11, 200), one of the toughest players on the Devils' squad. He recorded 47 solo tackles, sixth best on the squad.

The Devils return three defensive tacklers who started games in '95, led by junior Jason Reynolds (6-2, 275). Reynolds is the quickest ASU lineman off

the snap. Senior Shawn Swayda (6-5, 279), a Brophy Prep alum, started four games at tackle despite knee and ankle injuries. Junior Vince Amey (6-3, 283) stepped in and performed admirably.

Deer Valley senior Brent Burnstein (6-8, 270) was one of only two Devil defenders to start every game. Gilbert junior Malchi Crawford (6-4, 272) never lasted the season. He started five games before getting hurt. Still, he registered 19 tackles, three for losses and forced a fumble - all in September.

Junior Damien Richardson (6-2, 210) has a stranglehold on the strong safety position. He started 10 games and was a Pac-10 all-academic selection. Senior Harlan Rashada (6-2, 204), a starter at strong safety in '94, was suspended last season. He has 106 tackles in three seasons, including 61 as a junior.

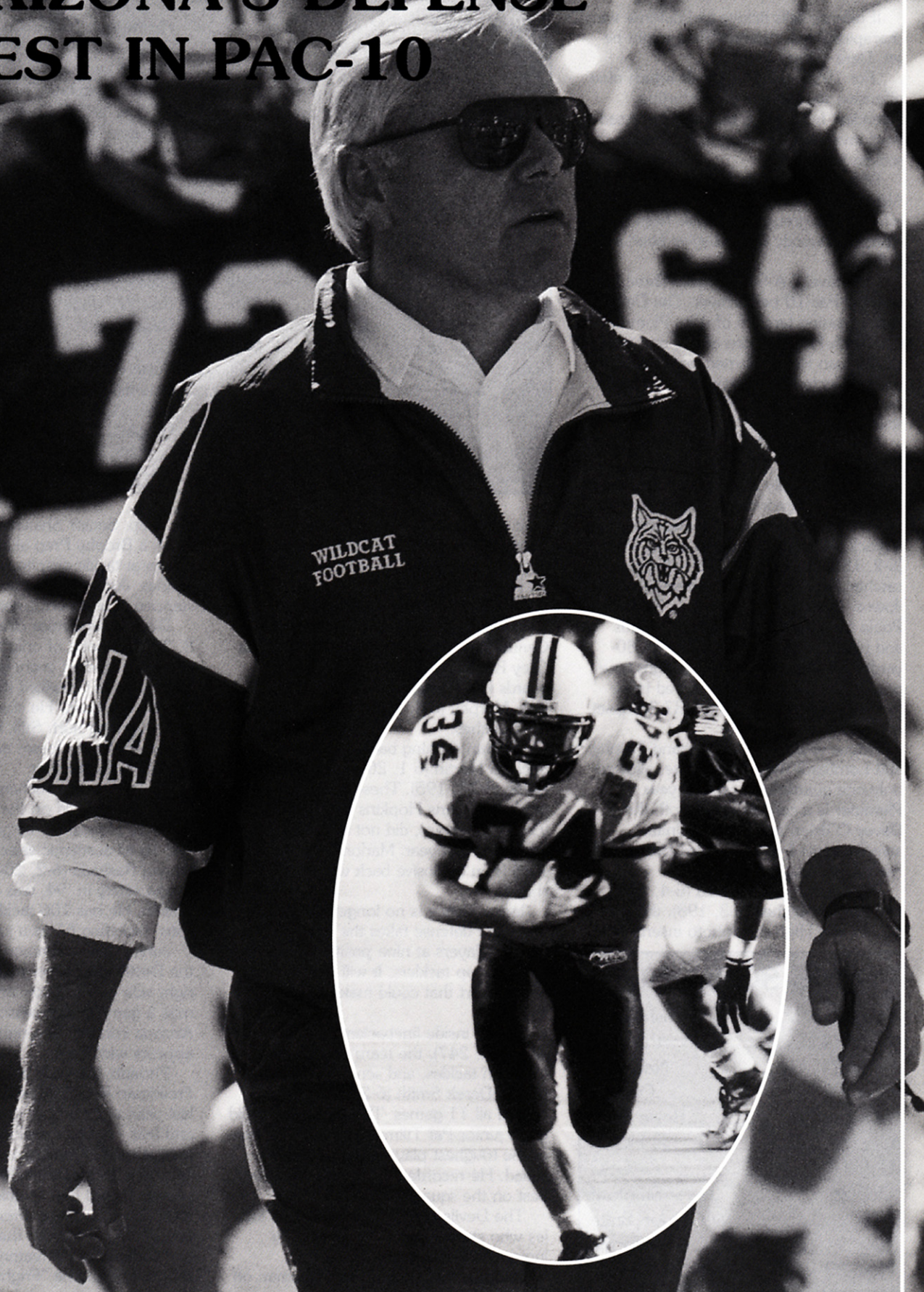
Junior Jason Simmons (5-10, 175), the Devils' best cover man, mans the right side of the secondary. He didn't miss a game in two seasons until the Arizona contest. The right corner spot appears wide-open.

Phoenix Maryvale sophomore Mitchell Freedman (6-0, 200) started nine games last year, eight at free safety. Intimidation and fear - not to mention athletic ability - are his traits. Freedman (see cover) was second in tackles with 80, deflected five passes, forced four fumbles and recovered two. Erratic at times, Freedman dealt enough blows to both the opposition - and sometimes his teammates - to warrant the nickname "Fright Night."

1996 SCHEDULE

Sept. 7	Washington
Sept. 14	North Texas
Sept. 21	Nebraska
Sept. 28	Oregon
Oct. 5	Boise State
Oct. 12	at UCLA
Oct. 19	USC
Oct. 26	at Stanford
Nov. 2	at Oregon State
Nov. 9	California
Nov. 29	at Arizona

ARIZONA'S DEFENSE BEST IN PAC-10



By Lonnie Collins

It seemed only yesterday that Arizona's "Desert Storm" defense was the talk of the Pac-10. One of the nation's strongest. Today, no players from that original unit, ranked among the nation's best, returns. Several are in the National Football League. Graduation claimed the rest.

However, Wildcat foes may see little change, and head coach Dick Tomey sees no shortage of quality players. Arizona has produced a finalist for the Lombardi Award each of the past three seasons. Few programs can expect that type of potential year after year. But the 'Cats have created a defensive tradition second to none in the conference.

This year's leader looks like honorable mention all-Pac-10 tackle Joe Salave, a 6-4, 276 pound senior from Oceanside, California. His dedication and physical skills are simply tops.

Last spring, the coaching staff liked the progress of defensive end Van Tuinei (6-4, 260), tackle Daniel Greer (6-2, 250, so.), and former Arizona schoolboy stars Armon Williams (6-1, 223, jr.) and Jimmy Sprotte (6-2, 235, jr.), both linebackers. Williams, a former Tempe Valley Christian All-American hurdler, was a first-team all-Pac-10 specialty team member. Sprotte, whose younger brother Scooter is a backup tailback, was a prep star at Blue Ridge High in Lakeside.

Junior inside backer Chester Burnett (5-10, 219) was the team's leading tackler. Arizona was No. 7 nationally in total defense for many reasons and Burnett's nose for the ball was one.

1996 SCHEDULE

Aug. 31.....	Texas-El Paso
Sept. 7.....	at Iowa
Sept. 14.....	Illinois
Sept. 28.....	at Washington
Oct. 5.....	Washington State
Oct. 12.....	at USC
Oct. 26.....	Oregon State
Nov. 2.....	at California
Nov. 9.....	at Oregon
Nov. 16.....	UCLA
Nov. 22.....	Arizona State

WILDCAT NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
QB	Ortega Jenkins	6-2, 218	Long Beach (Jordan), Calif.
RB	Leon Callen	5-10, 180	Concord (De La Salle), Calif.
RB	Dennis Northcutt	5-11, 160	Los Angeles (Dorsey)
TE	Makai Freitas	6-6, 235	Clinton (Clintondale), Mo.
WR	Joe Johnson	6-3, 215	Long Beach City College
WR	Jeremy McDaniel	6-2, 185	Fort Scott (Kan.) Junior College
OL	David Floyd	6-4, 265	Peoria (Centennial), Ariz.
OL	Jason Kopydlowski	6-4, 250	Tucson (Salpointe)
OL	Marques McFadden	6-5, 275	Meridian (Capital), Idaho
OL	Jose Portilla	6-6, 300	Ricks (Idaho) Junior College
OL	Bruce Wiggins	6-3, 270	Houston (Lee)
LB	Portland Bates	6-2, 210	Imperial Beach (Marian), Calif.
LB	Stadford Glover	6-2, 225	El Paso (Irvin), Tex.
DL	Shontel Early	6-3, 235	Tucson (Amphitheater)
DL	Idris Haroon	6-2, 215	Houston (Hastings)
DL	Joseph Tafoya	6-4, 220	Pittsburg (Pittsburg), Calif.
DL	Steve Tafua	6-4, 280	Orange Coast (Calif.) Junior College
DB	Bradford Glover	6-2, 220	El Paso (Irvin), Tex.
DB	Corey Henderson	6-0, 200	Marrero (Ehret), La.
DB	Chris McAlister	6-2, 185	Mount Sac (Calif.) Junior College
DB	Paul Shields	6-2, 215	Scottsdale Community College

Tomey returns three starters in the secondary, starting with cornerbacks Kelly Malveaux (5-9, 176) and Rashee Johnson (6-0, 180). Malveaux, just a junior, is a product of Poly High School in Long Beach, the most productive American high school ever for the National Football League.

Sophomore Mikal Smith (5-10, 175) starts at strong safety, leaving the free safety slot open for junior David Fipp (5-11, 180) or sophomore Rafell Jones (5-10, 180).

Still, for the Wildcats to make a run for the Roses, Arizona's offense must step it up. If they could play rival Arizona State each week they would be set. Recently, the 'Cats struggle offensively for three months, then look like the Dallas Cowboys against ASU.

Senior wideout Richard Dice (6-2, 216) was only an honorable mention all-Pac-10 pick last year. But only because he missed five games with a knee injury. Dice continues to improve after undergoing surgery in late November. Despite missing games, Dice finished with 25 receptions for 443 yards and six touchdowns. He averaged 17.7 yards per catch. Playing hurt against ASU, he made four key catches for 68 yards and a score.

Junior receiver Rodney Williams (6-1,

192) caught 46 passes for 587 yards, both team highs. His best games came on the road against Illinois and Arizona State.

The 'Cats prime concern is quarterback, with junior Brady Batten (6-2, 206) and redshirt freshman Keith Smith (5-10, 185) competing for the position. Last year Arizona was last in the conference in rushing. Finding a running game will be the most difficult task for Tomey.

Senior Gary Taylor (5-11, 194), with 1,000-plus all-purpose yards (714 rushing), could be the answer. He'll be pushed by former Mountain View player of the year Kevin Schmidtke (photo insert) and young Scooter Sprotte (Lakeside Blue Ridge). Transfer Leon Blunt, a redshirt freshman, will get a look.

Arizona will have a bunch of offensive linemen to work with, including Ian McCutcheon (6-4, 283), Frank Middleton (6-4, 360), Tevete Usu (6-2, 307) and former Marana Mountain View star Willie Walker (6-2, 285). Wayne Wyatt (6-3, 296), another Marana Mountain View product, took over the center spot when injuries forced Mani Ott to tackle.

The 'Cats kicking game looks sound. Senior Matt Peyton averaged 40.6 yards per punt. Soph Mark McDonald inherits the place kicking chores.

PLAYOFF BERTH STILL LUMBERJACKS' GOAL



The third consecutive 7-4 season and a No. 22 national ranking firmly established the Northern Arizona football program as one of the best at the I-AA level. Still, it was another case of "so close yet so far away."

Several key factors prevented the '95 Lumberjacks from achieving their goal of winning the Big Sky Conference and advancing to the Division I-AA playoffs. That is not to say the season was a disappointment.

It was a season to remember. Rod Marshall tied an NCAA record with five touchdown catches against Abilene Christian. The senior wide receiver was in a zone against the overmatched Wildcats, and Marshall finds his name in the record books next to Jerry Rice, who accomplished the same feat twice at Mississippi Valley State.

Then quarterback Jeff Lewis, later drafted by the Denver Broncos, completed his first 18 passes against Cal State Northridge. He was pulled before half-time, but not before throwing for 254 yards and four touchdowns in a 68-7 rout.

The former Scottsdale Horizon product brought national exposure to the program by being rated as one of the top NFL prospects at his position.

At Boise State, the 'Jacks ran their winning streak to five games with a 32-13 win over the '94 national runnerup. Junior college transfer Archie Amerson, brought to NAU to play defense, rushed for 175 yards against the long time conference rivals, who were playing their last season in the Big Sky.

But three bad breaks kept the 'Jacks from advancing to post season play.

Against Montana in the Walkup Skydome, 15,707 witnessed one of the

LUMBERJACK NEWCOMERS

Pos.	Player	Size	Hometown(School)
QB	Clay Brown	6-3, 185	Littleton (Arapahoe), Colo.
RB	Alawnzo Brown	5-10, 180	Tucson (Canyon del Oro)
RB	Troy Campbell	5-10, 180	Glendale Junior College
RB	Kino Carson	5-8, 180	Butte (Mont.) Junior College
RB	Roderick Washington	5-9, 175	Coffeyville (Ks.) Junior College
TE	Steve Fontana	6-5, 220	San Geronimo (Drake), Calif.
TE	Jason Mosier	6-5, 220	Elkhorn (Elkhorn), Neb.
TE	Jesse Page	6-4, 220	Flagstaff (Flagstaff)
WR	Kortney Allen	5-10, 175	Highlands (Mo.) Junior College
WR	Troy Searcy	5-10, 155	Antelope Valley Junior College
WR	Neil Walker	5-10, 175	Peoria (Peoria), Ariz.
WR	Justin Yuille	5-8, 160	Monrovia (Monrovia), Calif.
OL	Carl Blakely	6-5, 270	Rim of the World, Calif.
OL	Mike Freitas	6-4, 275	Citrus (Calif.) Junior College
OL	Jake Petersen	6-4, 260	Gardnerville (Douglas), Nev.
OL	Mike Sheats	6-6, 295	Tucson (Catalina)
OL	Ryan Winkler	6-2, 280	El Camino (Calif.) Junior College
LB	Jake Crissup	5-10, 195	Jenks (Jenks), Okla.
LB	Kelly Lochbaum	6-2, 230	Butte (Mont.) Junior College
DL	Aaron Dave	6-3, 245	Tempe (Tempe)
DL	Jacob Howes	6-3, 245	Ricks (Idaho) Junior College
DB	Damion Davis	5-10, 185	Los Angeles Harbor Junior College
DB	Ryan Hill	6-0, 192	Palomar (Calif.) Junior College
DB	Walter Jefferson	5-10, 180	Tucson (Amphitheater)
DB	Tony Walker	5-10, 175	Peoria (Peoria), Ariz.

best ever games played in Flagstaff. With the score tied at 21-21, Montana's great quarterback, Dave Dickenson, engineered an eight-play, 68-yard drive with 1:41 left which ended in an Andy Larson 29-yard field goal as time expired - breaking the home team's back and vaulting the visitors to a national championship drive.

Near the end of a 17-14 loss to Idaho, Lewis lay writhing in pain on the Skydome carpet after breaking his collarbone and ending his college career before 12,371 home town fans.

At Weber State, backup quarterback Scott Partridge (Scottsdale Chaparral) tried in vain to lead the 'Jacks to post season play. His teammates jumped to a 14-0 lead, only to see the Wildcats score 20 unanswered points to take a 20-14 victory. The game ended with NAU on Weber State's two-yard line.

The 'Jacks still posted a banner year, setting team records for points (403), average per game (36.6), passing yards (2,638) and total yards (4,891).

"Overall, this coming season will be a very different one for us," says head coach Steve Axman about the upcoming campaign. "Last year was one of those you point to as far as the development of your players. We will have lost 22 scholarship players, and that's an awful lot for

a Division I-AA team."

At quarterback, there will be strong competition between sophomore Kevin Stephens (6-3, 200), the former Glendale Cactus star, and freshman Travis Brown (6-4, 180), a Phoenix Moon Valley grad.

Graduation didn't completely leave the cupboard bare. The 'Jacks return eight pre-season honor candidates, including four who could land All-America votes.

Senior Archie Amerson (5-9, 190), a running back from Dixie Junior College, was a first team all-Big Sky selection. He rushed for 1,117 yards and averaged 148.5 all-purpose yards per game. That total yardage was 20th in the nation.

Offensive tackle Dan Finn (6-4, 270) from Mesa Westwood hopes to make his senior year the best. So does defensive tackle Ben Petrucci (6-2, 260), a former all-stater from Flagstaff High. The strongest Lumberjack on the squad, Petrucci (photo insert) is a first team I-AA All-america selection by *Weekly Football Gazette*. Teammate Kevin Kolkman (6-3, 240), another Westwood product, is another terrific prospect.

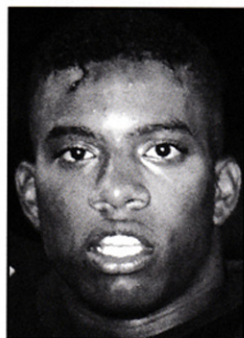
Additional all-star candidates include linemen Ryan Lingenfelder (6-2, 280), James Martin (6-4, 305) and Nate Miconi (6-0, 185), along with wide receiver Chris Warner (6-3, 200).

1996 SCHEDULE

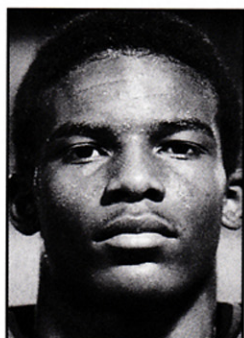
Aug. 29	.....Western New Mexico
Sept. 7	.....at New Mexico
Sept. 14	.....Southern Utah
Sept. 28	.....Cal State Northridge
Oct. 5	.....Weber State
Oct. 12	.....at Montana State
Oct. 19	.....at Cal State Sacramento
Oct. 26	.....at Montana
Nov. 2	.....Idaho State
Nov. 9	.....at Eastern Washington

STOP THIEF!

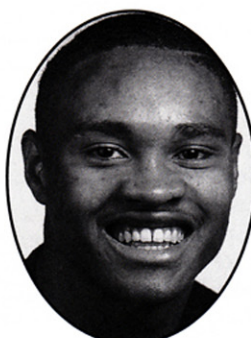
International Fiber-Com, Inc. Salutes Tyrone Byrd Award Winners



Corey Hill
Tucson Sabino



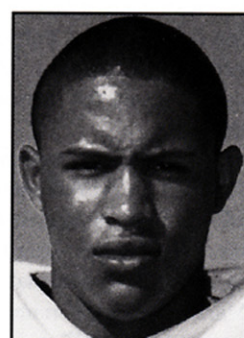
Anthony Parker
McClintock



Tyrone Byrd,
Chandler



Derral Davis
Tucson



Mike Brown
Saguaro

HONORING THE STATE'S BEST DEFENSIVE BACK

1995..... Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
1994..... Eric Johnson, Phoenix Alhambra
1993..... Corey Hill, Tucson Sabino
1992..... Mitchell Freedman, Phoenix Maryvale
1991..... James Richardson, Bradshaw Mountain (jr)
1990..... Eddie Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1989..... Billy Burris, Florence
1988..... Mike Salmon, Phoenix Greenway
1987..... Tyrone Byrd, Chandler
1986..... Nathan LaDuke, Phoenix Alhambra
1985..... Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984..... John Giaspie, Phoenix Central
1983..... Anthony Parker, Tempe McClintock
1982..... Chuck Nixon, Phoenix Shadow Mountain
1981..... Shawn Benson, Mesa Mountain View
1980..... George Duarte, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1979..... Mossy Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1978..... Jeff Colter, Tucson Amphitheater
1977..... Charles Cobbs, Florence
1976..... Felix Kelson, South Mountain
1975..... David Given, Tempe McClintock
1974..... Harold Smith, Florence
1973..... Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
1972..... Carl Russell, McNary
1971..... Danny Smith, Safford (jr)
1970..... Derral Davis, Tucson
1969..... Dick Harris, Mesa Westwood (jr)

1968..... Joe Petroshus, Tucson
1967..... Rudy Quihuis, Tucson Pueblo
1966..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia
1965..... Bill Dipley, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1964..... LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963..... Earliest Nelson, South Mountain
1962..... James Dugan, Flagstaff (jr)
1961..... Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
1960..... Luther Harper, Phoenix Union
1959..... Jim Sims, Tucson (jr)
1958..... Dornel Nelson, South Mountain
1957..... Steve Vaughn, Phoenix North
1956..... Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955..... Warren Livingston, Mesa (jr)
1954..... Eddie Mitchell, Phoenix North
1953..... Charles Christopher, Phoenix Carver
1952..... Joel Favara, Tucson
1951..... Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950..... Gene Mitcham, Phoenix North
1939..... Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's

TYRONE BYRD, a three-sport star at Chandler High School between 1985-87, was a star defensive back at Nebraska and a projected high NFL draft pick whose career was halted by an automobile accident in 1993.

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ERIC GULIFORD.....Carolina Panthers
JIM JEFFCOAT.....Buffalo Bills
PAUL JUSTIN.....Indianapolis colts
TODD KALIS.....Cincinnati Bengals
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JEFF KYSAROakland Raiders
RANDALL McDANIEL.....Minn. Vikings
LENNY MCGILLGreen Bay Packers
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BRYAN PROBYKansas City Chiefs
LEONARD RUSSELLSt. Louis Rams
DAN SALEAUMUAKansas City Chiefs
PHILLIPPI SPARKS.....New York Giants
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DANNY VILLA.....Kansas City Chiefs
BRETT WALLERSTEDT...Cincinnati Bengals
RYAN WOODDallas Cowboys
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Randall McDaniel, Minnesota Vikings

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ASU, This Rosebud's For You

By Bob Jacobsen

(The following article, by Arizona Republic sports editor Bob Jacobsen, appeared 10 years ago after Arizona State beat Michigan in the Rose Bowl.)

The question was simple enough: What does the Rose Bowl mean to you? So, too, was the answer: National recognition and acceptance in the Pac-10.

But it goes much deeper, as deep as 32 years ago, when the Arizona State football program really began. When Clyde Smith hired Dan Devine from Michigan State in 1955 to coach the Sun Devils, this program planted the roots that were to pay off in a Rose Bowl win.

This rosebud's for you, Smitty. And this one's for you, Dan. When Devine left after the 1957 season (with a 27-3-1 record) for Missouri, Smitty made another excellent move by elevating young assistant Frank Kush. And for the next 22 years, Kush put the program squarely on the national collegiate football map. This rosebud's for you, Frank.

His early years produced such stars as running backs Charlie Taylor, Tony Lorick, Gene Foster and Larry Todd, all went on to professional football. These rosebuds are for you, guys.

Then along came 1968, when the University of Arizona issued its infamous challenge to the Sun Bowl: "Take us now or don't take us at all." The Sun Bowl wilted, took the 'Cats, only to have the 'Cats taken by ASU, 30-6. This rosebud's for you, Art Malone. And for you, Ron Pritchard. You guys starred in that game.

In 1970, Kush and his band of Devils went undefeated, finishing an 11-0 season with a 48-26 pounding of North Carolina in the Peach Bowl. This rosebud's for you, QB Spaghetti Joe Spagnola.

Then came three years of Western Athletic Conference and Fiesta Bowl prominence, possibly the three greatest successive years ASU has ever had. This rosebud's for you, Danny White. And for you Woody Green. And for you too, Benny Malone.

In 1975, Arizona State played its most



Cooper got a ride from Danny Villa (left) and Jim Warne after a 49-0 win over California sent ASU to Pasadena.

important two games to date, a 24-21 victory over Arizona to win the WAC, and the 17-14 triumph over Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl, capping a 12-0 season. This rosebud's for you, John Jefferson. You too, Danny Kush, Dennis Sproul, Fred Mortensen and Larry Gordon.

The move to the Pac-10 occurred for the 1978 season. For both Arizona State and Arizona, UA president John P. Schaefer was an instrumental figure. He, in fact, practically dragged ASU along. This rosebud's for you, John.

After the 1979 scandal, and a mediocre season in 1980, the Devils, behind Mike Pagel, Robert Weathers and Gerald Riggs, finished 9-2. But losses to Washington State and UCLA ended any Rose Bowl hopes. And you Gerald Riggs. And you too, Robert Weathers.

Arizona State's first real shot at the roses came in 1982. But final regular season losses to Washington and Arizona dampened a 10-2 season. This rosebud's for you, Darryl Rogers. And you Vernon Maxwell. And you too, Mike Richardson. In early 1985, Rogers left for the Detroit Lions. Athletic Director Dick Tamburo, undaunted by the search for a "big name," chose John Cooper from Tulsa. This rosebud's for you, Dick.

When Tamburo was relieved of his duties, ASU president Dr. J. Russell Nelson hired a 34-year-old from the University of Pennsylvania, Charles Harris. This rosebud's for you, Russ. And you Charles. And when ASU nailed California 49-0 in 1986 to clinch its first spot in the nation's most prestigious bowl, Arizona coach Larry Smith sent Cooper a telegram, congratulating the Devils on becoming the first Arizona team to reach Pasadena. This rosebud's for you, Larry.

And finally, after all the near misses, one man was instrumental in ASU finally reaching college football's promised land. This rosebud's for you, John Cooper.

For an Arizona State alum who graduated too many years ago to remember, reaching the Rose Bowl is the epitome of success in the football classroom. It is the ultimate graduate course for a degree in football. It is summa cum laud.

It is, of course, all of these things. And yet, none of them. What it really is is a tribute to the past 32 years of Sun Devil football. In this daze of wine and roses (and aren't we still a little stunned that this ASU team went to the Rose Bowl?), we have a tendency to forget that the program wasn't built overnight.

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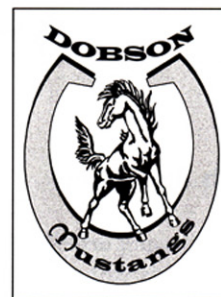
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- Track and Field – Boys and Girls
- Volleyball – Girls
- Wrestling – Boys

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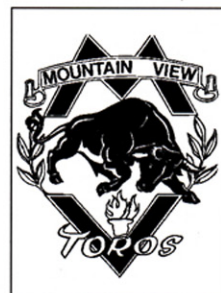
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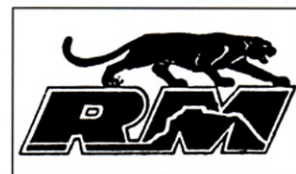
Dobson HS



Mesa HS



Mountain View HS



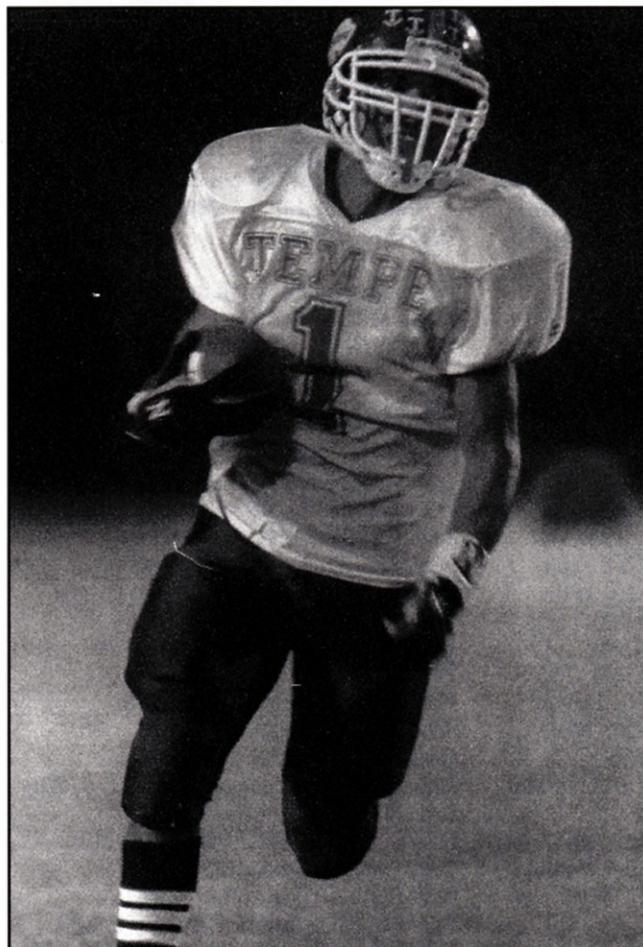
Red Mountain HS



Westwood HS

1996 FRIDAY NIGHT HEROES

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Tempe's Justin Taplin scores on a kick return.
(Amy Blodgett photo)

Phoenix Metro Football Magazine's checklist of outstanding varsity players for the 1996 high school football season.

QB... Todd Mortensen, Tempe, 6-4, 204
 QB... Jeremy Dremler, Casa Grande, 6-4, 194
 FB ... James Creason, Gilbert Highland, 6-1, 220
 RB ... Jovanne Kirkendoll, Phoenix Maryvale, 5-9, 155
 RB ... Shegun Cummings-John, Mesa, 6-0, 180
 RB ... Patrick Thomas, Gilbert Highland, 6-0, 190
 WR .. Justin Taplin, Tempe, 6-0, 175
 WR .. Dana White, Tolleson Westview, 6-0, 175
 WR .. A.J. Brown, Phoenix Washington, 6-1, 175
 TE ... Ken Manasco, Phoenix Carl Hayden, 6-3, 196
 OC .. Chris Hahn, Glendale Cactus, 6-3, 260
 OT... Erin Huizingh, Tempe McClintock, 6-8, 250
 OT... Damien Niko, Mesa Mountain View, 6-5, 285 (jr)
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 DL ... Bryan Kula, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-4, 270
 DL ... Kenny Hale, South Mountain, 6-4, 260
 DL ... Ryan Duncan, Mountain Pointe, 6-3, 220
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 LB ... Mike Washington, Tempe, 6-0, 215
 LB ... T.J. Hopper, Phoenix Alhambra, 6-2, 175
 LB ... John Westra, Mesa Red Mountain, 6-5, 240
 LB ... Scott Fuller, Mesa, 6-2, 225 (jr)
 DB... Raymond Perryman, South Mountain, 5-11, 180
 DB... Tamar Johnson, Phoenix Alhambra, 5-10, 180
 PK ... Jeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 170



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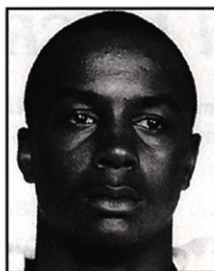
'96 Metro Checklist of Players

quarterbacks

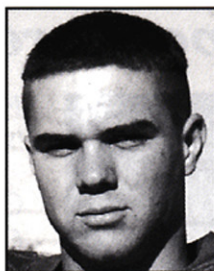
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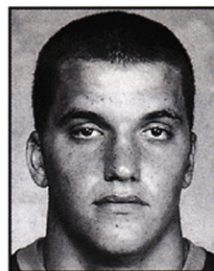
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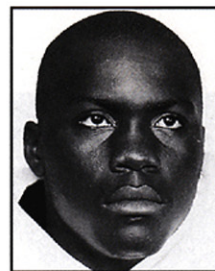
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Brent Williams, Centennial, 6-2, 175

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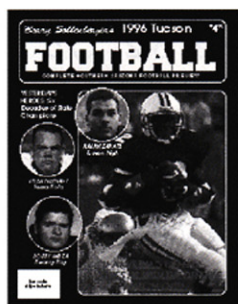
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Justin Taplin, Tempe, 6-0, 175
Jeff Welch, Camelback, 6-3, 180



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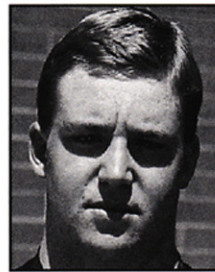
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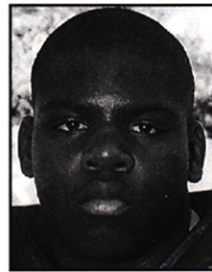
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4115 E. Catalina Drive
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 Greg Mitchell, Centennial, 6-1, 208
 Chris Newman, Alhambra, 6-2, 175
 Paolo Pool, Red Mountain, 5-11, 200
 Sal Quinonez, Trevor Browne, 6-0, 205
 Ben Santillan, Trevor Browne, 5-9, 180
 Willy Spong, St. Mary's, 5-11, 190
 Mike Washington, Tempe, 6-0, 215
 John Westra, Red Mountain, 6-5, 240

Derrick Williams, Camelback, 6-0, 208 (jr)
 Amenweah Yuoh, Boys Ranch, 6-3, 203

deep backs

Brad Barron, Mountain Pointe, 6-1, 180
 Eric Bell, Ironwood, 6-0, 185
 Will Byrd, Mesa, 6-0, 180
 Ryan Dilandri, Brophy Prep, 5-11, 170
 Ryan Evans, Saguaro, 5-10, 165
 Brandon Falkner, Peoria, 6-1, 181 (jr)
 Anthony Fears, Cortez, 5-10, 191
 Jeff Gardner, Chaparral, 5-11, 175
 Carlos Harris, Maryvale, 6-1, 175
 Tamar Johnson, Alhambra, 5-10, 180
 Mike Laird, Sunnyslope, 6-1, 170
 Todd Lowder, Paradise Valley, 5-8, 148
 Jarrod Moore, Moon Valley, 5-8, 170
 Josh Pearson, Westview, 6-1, 180
 Raymond Perryman, South Mtn., 5-11, 180
 Mike Rabago, Deer Valley, 5-10, 180
 Mike Ross, Mesa, 6-2, 195
 Will Umberger, Gilbert, 6-3, 185
 Eddie Williams, Boys Ranch, 5-10, 160
 Landen Woodward, Sunnyslope, 6-1, 170
 Jason Zurn, Mountain Pointe, 5-11, 180

linebackers

Brian Allen, Coronado, 6-0, 190
 Mike Bello, Chandler, 6-0, 185
 Brian Cherry, Moon Valley, 5-11, 195
 Robert Cotton, Independence, 6-0, 185
 Larry Davis, Alhambra, 5-8, 165

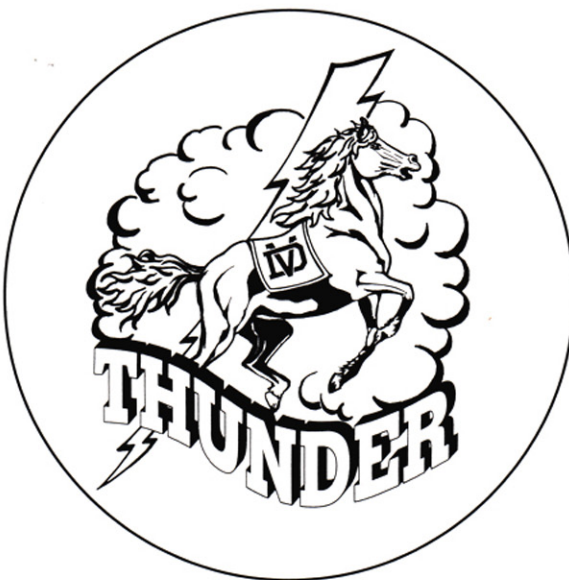
kickers

Dante Buscaglia, Chandler, 5-7, 150
 Jeremy Kelley, Mountain View, 6-1, 170
 Chris Patten, McClintock, 6-1, 180
 Terry Wood, Brophy Prep, 6-0, 155 (jr)

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1996

**DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL
 JUNIOR VARSITY
 SCHEDULE**

Head Coach Jim Rattay

Sept. 12.....Marcos de Niza
 Sept. 19.....Chandler
 Sept. 26.....@ Yuma
 Oct. 3.....Red Mountain
 Oct. 10.....Desert Mountain
 Oct. 17.....(Open Date)
 Oct. 24.....@ Mountain View
 Oct. 31.....@ Tempe
 Nov. 7.....@ McClintock

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Aug. 10 'Cards vs Cincinnati
Sept. 7 'Devils vs Washington
Sept. 8 'Cards vs Miami
Sept. 14 'Devils vs North Texas
Sept. 21 'Devils vs Nebraska
Sept. 28 'Devils vs Oregon
Sept. 29 'Cards vs St. Louis
Oct. 5 'Devils vs Boise State

Oct. 19 'Devils vs USC
Oct. 20 'Cards vs Tampa Bay
Oct. 27 'Cards vs N.Y. Jets
Nov. 9 'Devils vs California
Nov. 17 'Cards vs N.Y. Giants
Nov. 24 'Cards vs Philadelphia
Dec. 8 'Cards vs Dallas
Dec. 13 5A/4A High School Finals
Dec. 15 'Cards vs Washington



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5A



If there's a better backfield in Phoenix than this one you don't want to face it. Above, Gilbert Highland fullback James Creason, a 220-pounder, bust through the Mountain View line (Lou Coopey photo).

Highland's Hawks Set to Soar

It's a wide-open race in the 5A ranks. Unlike last year, when Phoenix St. Mary's was a clear-cut favorite, the '96 campaign is up for grabs. However, Gilbert Highland, the new kid on the 5A block, returns a terrific backfield and a good, solid forward wall, and makes for good preseason pick.

Coach Mike Epperson's young club lost several close games to long time state powerhouses, or his Hawks would have been in the hunt last year.

They'll be plenty of competition. State finalist Horizon, Mesa Mountain View, Mesa, South Mountain and Mountain Pointe are loaded, but all five have a quarterback problems. Who will take charge?

Graduation cleaned out the St. Mary's roster, but Pat Farrell looks to reload, not rebuild. The Knights got a big shot in the arm with the transfer of two key players: junior-to-be Willie Daniel, who passed for 1,884 yards and 12 touchdowns in Phoenix Central's free-for-all offense, and teammate Robert Canidate, who totaled 1,596 yards playing on a 3-7 club.

5A EAST VALLEY REGION

1. Gilbert Highland (5-5)
2. Mesa Mountain View (10-3)
3. Mesa (10-2)
4. Mesa Dobson (3-7)
5. Mesa Westwood (9-3)
6. Mesa Red Mountain (4-6)
7. Yuma Cibola (2-8)

Over in Gilbert, Mike Epperson returns 17 players from an up-and-down club at **HIGHLAND**, where the Hawks dropped their finale to Red Mountain, 10-9 and missed the playoffs. They probably had the best 5-5 team in the state. "We let a couple of games get away that would have put us in the playoffs," says Epperson. "We must play tough every week to get where we want to be."

The Hawks return one of the Valley's best backfields and a good crop of offensive linemen. Fullback James Creason (6-1, 220, 4.8) rushed for 778 yards on 100 carries and scored nine touchdowns. Halfback Pat Thomas (6-0, 190, 4.8) rushed for 832 yards and scored 10 times. Tight end Craig Copple (6-3, 225,

4.8) adds a little spice to the Hawks' wishbone. So will two-way tackle Sam Jefferies (6-2, 275, jr), a transfer from Yuma Cibola who started as a sophomore. Guard Bill Duley (6-1, 245) and linebacker Brian Lindsay (6-0, 185, jr) started. Billy Jones (6-1, 185) will battle Steve Stone (5-10, 150) at quarterback. Chris Madsen (6-0, 180) will start at center and Justin Rhoner (5-9, 155) at wide-out. Scott Ho Ching (5-10, 185) is a tough nose guard and Mike Wallace (5-11, 170) is one of the region's better kickers. The Hawks won 12 games in 1994 against tough 4A competition, and have the tools to make a run at the 5A throne.

Over 20 lettermen, including 11 starters, are back at **MOUNTAIN VIEW**, and second year coach Bernie Busken likes the Toros' chances. Depth, size, better than average speed and experience make his club a contender. Last year's unit finished 10-3 after a surprising 42-3 semifinal loss to Horizon.

With Jeremy Kelley (6-1, 170) in the lineup, the kicking game is tops. Last

year he booted a school record 15 field. Junior quarterback Tate Gunning (5-11, 165) got his feet wet, to the tune of 869 yards and a 57% completion mark. Big Nick Bogle (6-3, 245) is one of the best two-way lineman in the region. Damien Niko (6-5, 280, jr) and Justin Hunt (6-4, 210) aren't bad either.

Wideout Nathan Ryan (6-1, 170, 4.6) averaged 27.1 yards per catch and picked off six passes in the secondary. Big Todd Heap (6-4, 215, 4.8) is a good target at tight end. Little Bryce Wyler (5-8, 160, 4.6) rushed for 508 yards and was the club's best return man. Safety Lee Chaffee (6-1, 170), and defensive backs Cody Smith (5-11, 170) and Brigg Bunker (5-11, 180) started. Surprisingly, 13 sophomores dotted the Toros' roster last year, with two-way tackle Niko the biggest and most impressive.

MESA has size and speed of its own, not to mention 76 years of tradition. Bill McKane returns 18 players from a 10-2 Jackrabbit squad which dropped a 14-13 heartbreaker to Mountain Pointe in the quarterfinals. Six starters return on defense. Junior linebacker Scott Fuller (6-2, 225, 4.7) might be the best defender of all. His 30-yard touchdown return of a fumble was the big play in an important 17-14 win over Highland. Just as important is Shegun Cummings-John (6-0, 180), the region's top returning running back. Last year he scored on a 99-yard kickoff return against Yuma Cibola. You'll also find him in the secondary, along with seniors Mike Ross (6-2, 195, 4.7) and Will Byrd (6-0, 180, 4.7). Two-way linemen David McKane (6-3, 215) and Clint Ellsworth (6-4, 225), wideout Chad Huber (5-11, 175) and quarterback Jeff Miller (6-0, 175) start. So does guard Joey Andrade (5-10, 230) and linebacker Brandon Coker (6-1, 205), who lines up next to Fuller.

DOBSON, a mystery team of late, would like to be a playoff club. Last year's 3-7 finish was the school's worst. Over 20 lettermen return, including two of the region's premier players, tailback Jabari Johnson (5-11, 195, 4.5) and nose guard Tony Camp (6-3, 245). Chris Olsen (6-2, 175) and George Pastore (5-10, 155) will compete at quarterback. Matt Schroeder (6-2, 250) is the center, joined by Camp, Tim Lyons (5-11, 210), Chris Hernandez (6-2, 245) and Chris Black (6-2, 205). Junior linebacker Josh McBurney (5-10, 195) is solid. So is the Mustangs' kicking game, with the likes of Lucas Coelho and George Anders in the lineup. Coelho is one of the best soccer players in the

METRO 5A Top 20

1. Highland Hawks
2. Horizon Huskies
3. Mountain View Toros
4. Mesa Jackrabbits
5. St. Mary's Knights
6. Mountain Pointe Pride
7. South Mountain Jaguars
8. Brophy Prep Broncos
9. Dobson Mustangs
10. Alhambra Lions
11. McClintock Chargers
12. Corona del Sol Aztecs
13. Camelback Spartans
14. Chandler Wolves
15. Deer Valley Skyhawks
16. Trevor Browne Bruins
17. Westwood Warriors
18. Maryvale Panthers
19. Red Mountain Lions
20. Marcos de Niza Padres

state. Anders kicked field goals of 53, 50 and 45 yards in a junior game against Deer Valley. Head coach Mike Clark has won 95 games at Dobson.

At **WESTWOOD**, Curt Palmer and the Warriors had another good team, going 9-3 and playoff hunting. State champ St. Mary's ended the Warriors' run, 19-13. Quarterback John Barr (6-3, 180), two-way end Cody Price (6-3, 210), flanker Ryan Begay (5-8, 150), running back Jason Tolton (5-11, 180) and two-way lineman Hakon Swenhaugen (6-2, 225) are good Westwood journeymen. Begay and Tolton also play in the secondary. But for the Warriors to return to the playoffs, help needs to come from the JV and junior teams.

RED MOUNTAIN looks tough in the offensive line. If the Lions' shore up the secondary it might have a good, solid squad. One set position is linebacker, where all-region pick John Westra (6-4, 240, 4.9) roams. No doubt about it, he's a good one. He also plays tight end. Paolo Pool (5-11, 200) and junior Bryant

Berge (6-2, 200) join Westra to form the regions toughest linebacking corps. In Nick Cavalliero (6-1, 180, 4.7) the Lions are set at quarterback. Berge can also call signals. Big Jason Stevens (5-10, 200, 4.9) is a solid fullback. Watch for Hadley Kilgore (6-1, 210), Chris Kohlstedt (6-0, 230), Josh Peebles (6-0, 200) and Travis Claypool (6-3, 215), among others, on the offensive line.

At **YUMA CIBOLA**, the Raiders return more players (30) than any team in the region. Fifteen starters are back, including all-region tackle Jarrod Haggard (6-4, 220), a two-way starter. Junior speedster Lando Johnson (5-9, 170, 4.5) rushed for 786 yards in seven games and averaged 21.6 yards per kickoff return. Coach Jeff Feldman's crew should be improved.

5A CENTRAL REGION

1. Tempe Mountain Pointe (11-3)
2. Tempe McClintock (4-6)
3. Tempe Corona del Sol (8-3)
4. Chandler (9-2)
5. Tempe Marcos de Niza (2-8)
6. Casa Grande (5-6)
7. Yuma (4-6)
8. Tempe Desert Vista (JV)

It's off to the races at **MOUNTAIN POINTE**, where veteran coach Karl Kiefer (248-89-3) has the Pride's program on track. Last year's unit finished 11-3 after falling to St. Mary's in the semifinals, 44-13. "We got our clock cleaned in the semis," says Kiefer, "but it was still a great year. Our best is yet to come."

All sorts of linemen return, including all-star Ryan Duncan (6-3, 220), a guard, defensive end and long snapper on punts. "He's a good one," says his coach. So are teammates Chris Oster (6-5, 220), Anthony Bates (6-0, 240), Matt Takacs (6-2, 220), Kenny Johnson (6-0, 210) and Gary Ensminger (6-3, 200), all strong, experienced linemen. The secondary, with Jason Zurn (5-11, 180), Ryan Whitesell (5-11, 180), Brad Borron (6-1, 180) and little Warren Session (5-5, 155) might be the region's best. Borron could be the Pride's starting quarterback.

The Pointe has a solid linebacking corps with Richard Coleman (5-11, 190), Dennis Gregory (6-0, 210) and Gary Ensminger (6-3, 200). But how about the offensive backfield? Last year Keith Brown rushed for 2,601 yards, scored 31 touchdowns, and signed with UCLA. Just shake the track & field tree and several good backs will fall out. That's probably



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- * Scored school record 451 points!
- * Totaled school record 5,057 offensive yards!
- * Keith Brown rushed for 2,601 yards, 31 TDs!
- * Brown & Eric Guyton both over 1,000 yards!
- * Brown & Mark Porcella Class 5A All-State!
- * Eight Pride starters first team all-region!
- * Karl Kiefer Arizona's all-time winningest coach
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what will happen. The two-time defending 5A track champs are loaded at the skill positions.

Injuries to key players, including both running backs, kept **McCLINTOCK** from performing at full potential. This year's unit looks strong on both sides of the ball, thanks to the return of Erin Huizingh (6-8, 250) and Robert Heywood (6-4, 205), excellent two-way linemen. Nathan Brown (6-2, 230) joins them and also plays tight end. When Frank Linden (6-2, 185) isn't at quarterback, he's the Chargers' safety. Chris Hickson (6-2, 225) and Bart Williams (5-11, 185) both play fullback and linebacker. Chris Patten (6-1, 180) handles the kicking and punting. Junior Johaann Campbell (5-8, 170) is a promising running back.

Playoff experience and more size than ever make **CORONA DEL SOL** a contender. The Aztecs, coached by Gary Ventura, went 8-2 then fell to Westwood in the playoff's first round. Alex McCain (6-3, 240, 4.8) is the big gun, playing linebacker and tight end. He's a good college prospect. Although not as big, Scott Jensen (6-0, 190) is also a capable linebacker/end. Little Adam Hall (5-8, 160) will run the Aztecs' pro offense, and he has several big bodies to protect him: Mike Dehorney (6-3, 240), Ken Hall (6-1, 210), Brent Bandura (6-3, 210), Rob Zbacnik (6-3, 245), Kevin Todd (6-0, 210), Matt Hendricks (5-11, 200) and Justin Mercer (6-1, 260) are capable two-way linemen. Paul Ventura (5-10, 170) and Alex Leyvas (5-11, 175) are two-way backs.

It was a near perfect regular season for **CHANDLER**, but the Wolves dropped a November contest with Mountain Pointe, then fell to South Mountain's speed in the playoffs. Still, their 9-2 finish was the best since 1984. Only three offensive starters return, but one is QB Blake Woods (6-0, 170), who passed for 848 yards and eight TDs in Chandler's wishbone attack. Split end Eric Moody (5-11, 160) averaged 18.8 yards per reception on eight catches. Tackle Shawn Falk (6-2, 225) is a good blocker. Guard Anthony Stevenson (6-0, 230) and tight end Ricky Priggs (6-2, 190) saw action.

Defensively, the Wolves are set at linebacker, where Mike Bello (6-0, 185) and Scott Rogers (6-0, 190) return. End Billy Wills (6-2, 205) also started. Dante Buscaglia (5-7, 150) was a second team all-region place kicker. "We have to patch up several positions," says Jerry Loper, winner of 221 games in the business.

"Our numbers are improving. More players seem to come out each year. We hope to be a spoiler."

It's the changing of the guard at **MARCOS DE NIZA**, where Tom Joseph tries to rebuild a beaten program. In the past six years the Padres have won only 34% of their games. Last year's club won two. "If we can learn to execute a new offense and defense we will be solid," claims Joseph, who was 27-15 in four years at Superior. His 1993 club finished runnerup to St. Johns in the 2A finals.

Still, a tough non-league schedule (Westwood, Mesa, Mountain View) could make Joseph's first year in Padreland a tough one. Only 15 players return. Guard John Hauptman (6-0, 200) and tight end Tyson Schutter (6-2, 175) could play both ways if asked. Josh Bolen (6-1, 195) is the center. Little Mike Munoz (5-7, 185) and Javier Ramirez (6-0, 220) are defensive tackles. Ryan Wingo (5-11, 185) is a capable linebacker. With 4.6 speed, C.J. Williams is the quickest Padre in camp, and roams the defensive secondary.

It's life without Trejo in **CASA GRANDE**, as the latest, Steve, picked up his diploma (and all-state credentials) and drove to Arizona State. First year coach Randy Robbins, a former Cougar himself, will build his first edition around all-league quarterback Jeremy Dremier (6-4, 194), who passed for 1,239 yards and 11 touchdowns. He'll get protection from the likes of Scott Lenderman (5-11, 230), Jeremy Eakins (6-4, 270) and Ed Button (6-5, 260), experienced two-way linemen. Running backs Jesus Haro (379 yds.) and Rich Dill (105 yds.) should see more action. Consistency is a real problem in Casa Grande. The Cougars have had five different head coaches in the past eight years.

Competitive every week, **YUMA** had a better season than its record indicated. With a little luck the Criminals might make the playoffs. Two key players, center Tony Jackson (6-3, 300) and safety Tony Craig (5-9, 190), have been on the varsity for three years. Linebacker Gabe Marquez (5-10, 225) and receiver Richard Barker (5-9, 170) can play for anybody.

Over at **DESERT VISTA**, Tempe's newest school will field frosh and JV squads only, as the Thunder prepares for a Sept. 12 opener with Marcos de Niza. Coach Jim Rattay's young frosh club went 7-1 last year and beat every Mesa, Tempe and Chandler squad on the schedule. Only Scottsdale Horizon, a team with a 29-game win streak, clipped their heels. Rattay has built a solid coaching staff,

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Students	School	Year
6,320	Phoenix Union	1964
6,176	Phoenix Union	1963
5,941	Phoenix Union	1965
5,898	Phoenix Union	1962
5,837	Phoenix Union	1957
5,819	Phoenix Union	1956
5,668	Tucson High	1955
5,543	Phoenix Union	1961
5,491	Tucson High	1956
5,266	Phoenix Union	1959
5,219	Phoenix Union	1939
5,176	Phoenix Union	1960
5,156	Phoenix Union	1958
5,080	Phoenix Union	1938
4,918	Phoenix Union	1937
4,810	Phoenix Union	1966
4,750	Phoenix Union	1955
4,636	Phoenix Union	1967
4,536	Phoenix Union	1968
4,529	Phoenix Union	1946
4,505	Phoenix Union	1935
4,474	Phoenix Union	1948
4,353	Phoenix Union	1949
4,329	Phoenix Union	1947
4,317	Mountain View	1987
4,317	Mountain View	1988
4,092	Mesa Dobson	1988
4,004	Phoenix Union	1933

consisting of Curt Cicott, Larry Bandura, Jeff Decker, Jimmy Williams and Dan Hines.

5A DESERT VALLEY REGION

1. Scottsdale Horizon (8-6)
2. Phoenix St. Mary's (14-0)
3. Phoenix Brophy Prep (6-5)
4. Deer Valley (4-6)
5. Shadow Mountain (3-7)
6. North Canyon (5-5)
7. Yuma Kofa (1-9)

Who would have guessed it? After a 5-5 campaign, **HORIZON** advanced to the state playoffs for the 7th year in a row, and four weeks later were in the 5A finals with Phoenix St. Mary's. The same St. Mary's they beat in the title game one year earlier. But this time the Knights from Phoenix prevailed. Still, it was an incredible November, to say the least.

Lots of starters return, including running backs Mike Rhodes (5-10, 195, 4.7)

phoenix football '96

and Brian Gubernick (5-10, 210, 4.8). Rhodes rushed for 1,194 yards on 187 carries (6.4) and scored 15 touchdowns. He appears to be one of the top returning backs in the Scottsdale area. Gubernick, a bruising fullback, gained 619 yards on 103 carries (6.0) and scored eight times. Although more than 2,000 yards worth of passing graduated (QB Greg Abel), two key receivers return: Alqis Motejunas (31 catches, 522 yds.) and Wes Little (18 catches, 243 yds.). Two-way end Brett Ivey (6-3, 205) and guard Merriitt Whittenton (5-10, 240) earned post season honors. Nate Adams (5-11, 220) fits in just fine. The defense looks solid with deep back Gabe Marcantonio (5-11, 165) and end James Denning (6-2, 190) in the lineup. "We should be solid on both sides of the ball," says Doug Shaffer, 79-44-2 at the Scottsdale school. "But we'll be better defensively than offensively."

Every once in a while a coaching staff has a team that really deserves to win a championship. Last year, talented **ST. MARY'S** hit the jackpot. "It doesn't always happen, but last year was one of those years," smiles Pat Farrell, winner of 78% of his games at the Catholic school. "Everything fell into place and it was a great thrill to be a part of it."

It was a 14-0 season, a 33-7 win over Horizon in the 5A finals, played before 21,478 fans at Tempe's Sun Devil Stadium - a record crowd for St. Mary's - and a final national ranking of 16th in two prep polls.

"We expect to be competitive this year, but every opponent will be looking forward to knocking off the defending champs," adds Farrell, who has won four 5A state crowns. "We hope to meet the challenge with some degree of success."

Only two starters return: FB/LB Willy Spong (5-11, 190) and OT/DT Scott Simon (5-11, 235), just a junior. Pete Donovan (6-0, 160) steps in at quarterback, maybe. He'll get competition from transfer Willie Daniel (6-0, 175, 4.8), the top rated sophomore QB in Phoenix last year. At Phoenix Central, Daniel passed for 1,884 yards - 318 in one game - and 12 touchdowns. He also ran for 440 yards and two scores. Another Central transfer, junior Robert Canidate (5-9, 160, 4.6), totaled 1,596 yards toting the ball - playing for a 3-7 club. He scored on three touchdown runs of more than 70 yards. St. Mary's looks to have a good passing game again, with wideout Jeff Tipton (5-10, 150) and tight end Branden Bowers (6-3, 215) in the lineup. Little

Alan Fierros (5-9, 180) starts at guard, and even smaller Todd Larson (5-6, 155) starts at running back.

Last year **BROPHY PREP** qualified for post-season play for the 9th consecutive year. This could be the Broncos' year, with a large number of starters and several of the top players in the region returning. Quarterback Tom Wurtz (5-11, 165) completed 100 of 203 passes for 1,185 yards and nine TDs. Junior kicker Terry Wood booted 10 field goals - four in one game - and made 24 of 27 extra points. Linebacker Mike Derksen (5-10, 210) made 82 tackles, while nose guard Bryan Kula (6-4, 270), one of the region's top players, made 45. Jay Chapman (5-11, 230) is a good two-way guard. Ryan Dilandri (5-11, 170) starts in the secondary and plays in the offensive backfield. In fact, most of the Broncos' senior starters are two-way performers, including Carter Benton, Mike Vital, Bret Collins, Manny Tytler, Justin Sicari, Brian Quinn and Elliot Engel.

Like Brophy Prep, **DEER VALLEY** should be better. "We were a good team with a brutal schedule," says head coach Fred Haeger. "We lost three games by less than a touchdown." The Skyhawks return seven starters on both sides of the ball, plus depth from a 6-3 JV club. Quarterback Chris Pickering (6-0, 170) will run the Hawks' Wing-T offense. Backs Mike Rabago (5-10, 180) and Eddie Martinez (5-8, 165) add speed and experience. Travis Brun (6-1, 180) and Andrew Vasquez (5-11, 180) are good receivers. Rico Racanelli (6-1, 225), Arnold Gonzalez (5-10, 220) and Ken Anderson (6-1, 220) are good-sized linemen. Linebacker Chris Mortera (6-0, 205) is a defensive leader.

Under first year coach Hal Pigusch, **SHADOW MOUNTAIN** improved in all aspects of the game. It should get even better, with a senior dominated line and linebackers. All-region guard David Gutierrez (6-2, 255) is a college prospect. Halfback Greg Kitchen (5-10, 180) rushed for 540 yards. With Gutierrez, Ricky Borunda (6-1, 235), Dwayne Harms (6-1, 230) and David Price (6-2, 220) blocking for him, Kitchen might reach 1,000 yards. The linebacking corps includes Steve Olsen (5-10, 210), Todd Riggs (6-1, 190) and Zach Tregarnen (6-1, 190).

NORTH CANYON, still trying to find its niche in the Desert Valley Region, has posted back-to-back 5-5 campaigns. Three years ago underclassmen Adam Gueits, Cody Staggs, Danny Padilla,

Brian Willis, Larry Morrison, Jared Fitzgerald, Jeremy Grayson, Greg Garcia, Justin Miller and Jarred Stetser made the school's first varsity. If they stick it out the Rattlers might be in the hunt. Down in Yuma, **KOFA** head coach Louis Nightingale is hoping he can keep his prize linebacker/fullback Tyler Neinast (6-2, 220), one of the region's best, healthy. Last September Tyler and 10 teammates were struck down by injuries, resulting in a 1-9 finish. Little John Rodriguez and Bo Gonzalez join Neinast in the backfield. Bob Mueller and Brad Donovan are 200-pound linemen, while junior Jeff Weiss is a solid two-way skill player.

5A METRO REGION

1. South Mountain (9-3)
2. Phoenix Alhambra (5-6)
3. Phoenix Camelback (4-6)
4. Phoenix Trevor Browne (11-1)
5. Phoenix Maryvale (2-8)
6. Phoenix Central (2-8)
7. Phoenix North (1-9)
8. Phoenix Carl Hayden (0-10)

Few teams in Arizona improved as much as **SOUTH MOUNTAIN**, coached by Cleveland Dansby. The young Jaguars, 9-3 after a heartbreaking loss to Horizon, dropped their opener 47-0 to St. Mary's. Two months later they blitzed a good Chandler club, 47-27, in the playoff's first round. "We were very proud of the kids because nobody thought we could win," says the head coach. "We made some young mistakes which resulted in two losses we could have won."

South has experience at every position, plus a key transfer who should help at quarterback. Junior Rich Lucero (6-0, 160), a backup to Todd Mortensen at Tempe High, is back in Jaguarland. That's a bonus. Speed and size will be a team strength. Dansby has two of the region's premier players in deep back Raymond Perryman (5-11, 180, 4.6) and down lineman Kenny Hale (6-4, 260, 5.0), potential all-stars. Lucero will find Andre Mixon (6-0, 160, 4.6) and Jason Jenkins (6-0, 180, 4.5) fast, reliable receivers. Mixon averaged a whopping 31.0 yards per catch; Jenkins 20.0! Defensively, both are good cover guys. The key runner will be Rashad Bauman (5-9, 165, 4.5), who rushed for 583 yards on 70 carries (8.3) and scored eight times. Fullback Mike Aldana (5-9, 195, 4.7) rounds out the backfield. He rushed for 345 yards on 61 carries (5.7) and scored four TDs. Guards Tomas Rodriguez (5-8, 210) and Junero Hale (5-

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9, 185) will do the blocking. South averaged 34.6 points per game; 90% of the scoring returns.

While South Mountain started their season with a loss to St. Mary's, **ALHAMBRA** finished with a loss to St. Mary's. Still, a 5-6 season and a playoff berth was a learning experience, and Frank Lutt's young Lions grew up. Eighteen players return, including several all-region picks. Best of the lot looks like linebacker T.J. Hopper (6-2, 175, 4.8), an all-metro selection.

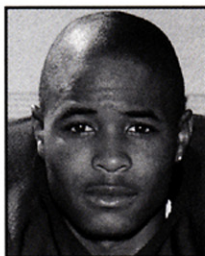
Quarterback Tamar Johnson (5-10, 180, 4.8) runs the club's wing-T and starts in the secondary, where he intercepted five passes. Junior Malcom Moore (5-10, 165, 4.5) averaged 5.2 yards per carry and gained 600 yards. Fullback Gary Cooper (5-11, 180, 4.5) is just as fast. Guard Shawn Jones (5-11, 190) is a leader on the offensive line. Chris Newman (6-2, 175) and little Larry Davis (5-8, 165) join Hopper to give Alhambra three quick linebackers. Davis had eight sacks. Two-way tackle Billy Medina (5-11, 250) is the strongest Lion in camp. Junior Joe Murillo (6-0, 210) is close behind.

Will **CAMELBACK** play to its potential? If so, the Spartans could be a spoiler, if not more. Sixteen underclassmen dotted last year's roster, with wideout Eric Keyes (6-1, 170) and defensive lineman Art Trejo (5-11, 230) earning all-region acclaim. Quarterback/defensive back Richard Aguayo (5-10, 185), defensive end Jeff Welch (6-3, 175) and linebacker Derek Williams (6-0, 208) are key players. Williams is just a junior.

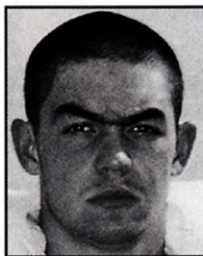
TREVOR BROWNE, 11-1 during the season, had its best outing since 1987. The Bruins' season ended in the quarterfinals, 23-6 to Mountain View. Graduation cleaned out the offense, but seven defenders return, including linebackers Ben Santillan (5-9, 180) and Sal Quinonez (6-0, 205). Still, two of the regions best running backs wear Browne's orange & brown: Andy Hendrix (5-9, 160, 4.5) and Scott Alger (5-11, 215, 4.6). Defensively, Hendrix roams the secondary; Alger is a linebacker. So is David Holmes (6-1, 210), a promising junior. Two-way tackle Ed Saiz (5-9, 210) anchors the line. Rodney Neal (5-10, 180, 4.5) is a speedy wingback. This could be a fast Bruin team.

If senior leadership improves, **MARYVALE** can right the ship. Last year's 2-8 finish was the worst in 23 years, when rival Trevor Browne opened and cut into the enrollment. Second year coach Tom

Huskies On The Horizon



John Clayton



Jason Moore

It starts at the top, with the administration, and works its way down to the head coach. Success breeds success. Support comes from many directions.

Including the lower levels.

Every head coach will admit that the program starts at the freshman level, or junior high system, depending upon the school district. At Horizon High in Scottsdale, the school which produced recent Outland Trophy winner Rob Waldrop, frosh coach Larry Reifenrath starts the young Huskies off on the right foot.

During the decade of the '90s, Husky frosh squads have gone 44-3-1, a .936 winning percentage. Four of six teams have gone unbeaten, and they enter 1996 with a 29-game unbeaten streak.

"We emphasize that (the streak) to each incoming class," says Reifenrath.

This success is mirrored on the varsity level. During the same span, playing a tough 5A schedule, the older Huskies went 9-1-1, 9-3, 10-2, 10-2, 11-3 (state champs) and surprisingly, 8-6 (state runner-up). The 11-3 state championship club of '94 was an 8-0 freshman class in '91.

"The success of our freshman program is directly related to an invaluable coaching staff," admits Reifenrath. "Our defensive coordinator, Jerry Stone, has been with us for nine years. Line coach Phil Weber has been a volunteer assistant for 12 years. Now that's loyalty."

Reifenrath has also had volunteer assistants like Bill Woods (police officer), Dave Fiore (U.S. Postal employee) and Rich Dodson (sheriff's department) in the program. "I consider it the best freshman staff in the state," adds Reifenrath.

Recently, former Horizon quarterback Jeff Lewis was drafted by the NFL Denver Broncos. Like all high school players, recent Husky stars like running back John Clayton (San Diego State) and tight end Jason Moore (ASU) got their start at the high school level on a freshman team.

Bruney returns 16 letter winners, including the region's leading rusher, tailback Jo Vonne Kirkendoll (5-9, 155, 4.5). The speedy Panther has a good supporting cast, starting with center Kyle Vasquez (6-1, 220), who is flanked by tackles Marquise Muldrow (6-3, 290), the state shot put and discus champ, and guard Steve Rodriguez (5-9, 220). Tight ends Kevin Gardner (6-0, 210) and Jared Rumsey (6-1, 190) are good blockers. Junior Marco Burrael (6-1, 165) gets the call at quarterback. Carlos Harris (6-1, 175) and Wayman Westbrook (6-2, 185) are strong, fast receivers, and good defensive backs.

Plans for an improved season at **PHOENIX CENTRAL** went array when the Bobcats' two best players transferred to another school. Still, head coach Rick Mazza likes the looks of kicker Greg Gallardo (6-1, 195), an all-metro pick, and several key returners. Gallardo was the top punter in the region, averaging 43.3 yards, and kicked a 47-yard field goal. He also plays defensive end. Randy McBride (6-0, 175) and Alex Mungia (6-1, 180) could share quarterback duties.

Sean Stevens (6-2, 180) is the Cats' center. Promising Shane Johnson (6-1, 180) is a two-way end.

Even with a great player like Myron McGruder (all-state DB), **NORTH** managed only one victory. McGruder is now gone. The Mustangs, coached by Gary Somo, look solid at quarterback, but feature too many young linemen and skill players. Senior Andy Hiatt (5-11, 175) will run the offense. Erik Jensen (5-11, 180) makes for a good target at tight end. Gabe Gutierrez (5-7, 170) makes for a little one at running back. Neither have exceptional speed. Junior Tom Watson (5-9, 145) backs up Hiatt and plays in the secondary. Paul McIlroy (6-0, 175) starts at center.

CARL HAYDEN returns one dozen letter winners, mostly underclassmen. But one, tight end Ken Manasco (6-3, 196, 4.8), is a dandy. Last year he caught 41 passes. Defensive end Eric Regalado (6-2, 205) is all-league material. Two big juniors, Gabe Seniceros (5-9, 235) and Jesse Soloman (6-3, 290), man the trenches, and help give the Falcons a running game to work with.



Here comes Tempe's Mike Washington, on the loose against Glendale Ironwood. When not cleaning running backs' clocks, Washington rushed for 560 yards, 6.9 yards per carry (Amy Blodgett photo).

Tempe Buffaloes a Runaway Stampede?

Does the state produce good 4A teams or what! Just ask the college scouts, who have signed more players from Arizona's 4A ranks in the past decade than from the larger 5A schools. Last year, the city of Scottsdale produced one of the two best teams in all of Arizona - regardless of class - Saguro's Sabercats. Just ask the University of Nebraska, which signed the Cats' best player, prep All-American Mike Brown.

This year it's more of the same. Phoenix alone is loaded with Division I prospects in the 4A ranks, and three reside at top-rated Tempe: quarterback Todd Mortensen, receiver Justin Taplin and linebacker Mike Washington.

Not to be overlooked is A.J. Brown at Phoenix Washington, one of the state's premier athletes. Watch for this gifted Ram to land all-state honors in both football and basketball. And, come November, watch for his Rams to be in the hunt for the state crown.

Arizona has three 4A regions outside Maricopa County also, and, thanks to many excellent 4A programs, the state

has become a happy hunting ground for college recruiters throughout the nation.

4A EAST SKY REGION

1. Tempe Union (9-3)
2. Scottsdale Chaparral (6-5)
3. Scottsdale Coronado (5-5)
4. Scottsdale Arcadia (5-5)
5. Gilbert (3-7)
6. Apache Junction (0-10)
7. Scottsdale Desert Mountain

Is **TEMPE UNION** due? The Buffaloes, coached by Tim McBurney, haven't reached the finals since 1989. But they've come close. Like last year, when Ironwood's Eagles nipped the Buffs, 21-14 in the quarterfinals. State champ Saguro beat Tempe on a field goal. McBurney has almost all the pieces of the puzzle - quarterback, fullback/linebacker, receiver/safety/kick returner - taken up by just three people. Linemen are the missing links. Last year's starters were seniors.

In quarterback Todd Mortensen (6-4, 204), Tempe has a dandy. He completed

113 of 202 passes (56%) for 1,844 yards and 23 touchdowns. Nine TD strikes went to Justin Taplin (6-0, 175, 4.7), one of the best all-round players in the Valley. Taplin averaged 21.8 yards per catch, with the longest an 80-yarder. From scrimmage he averaged 18.1 yards per carry on nine runs, with the longest of 56 yards. He intercepted eight passes. He returned three punts for scores, averaging 27.5 yards a try, with the longest 72 yards. He averaged 23.3 yards per kickoff return. One national publication rates Taplin the best all-round player in the Southwestern United States. At linebacker, Tempe returns all-region pick Mike Washington (6-0, 215, 4.8), another blue-chip prospect. His resume reads: 62 unassisted tackles, 560 yards rushing, five touchdowns.

But how about the supporting cast? That's the big question in Tempe. Tailback James Shaw (5-9, 150) managed 471 yards (4.9 per carry) and seven TDs. He'll be busy. Wideout Brian Cavanaugh (5-10, 160) averaged 9.2 yards per catch and should take pressure off Taplin. Tight

end David Bohn (6-2, 180) caught five passes for a 14.4 average. Little Mike Smith (5-6, 160) average 21.7 yards per catch on just three grabs. Up front, guard Jay Mueller (6-2, 200) and tackle Humberto Fuentes (6-0, 210) give McBurney and his staff a nucleus to build on. Still, the Buffs' line is suspect.

What a turnaround! **CHAPARRAL** rebounded from an 0-10 season to a 6-5 playoff unit. "Last season was important for us," says second year coach Ron Estabrook. "We established some tradition and pride. Now, we have a sound base to build on." The Firebirds' season included a win over Tempe and a 38-24 first-round playoff loss to Cactus. The junior class needs to step up and make a difference. Graduation hurt the defense. Junior tailback Jerry Schwartzberg (5-11, 190, 4.7) rushed for 991 yards and scored 16 touchdowns. He added 229 yards on kickoff returns. Linemen Matt Way (6-1, 245), Adam Goodsworth (6-2, 220) and Clay Muschinski (6-1, 235), juniors all, won all-city honors. So did defensive back Jeff Gardner (5-11, 175), a senior. Tackle Jereme Kleven (6-3, 255) looks impressive. Jeremy Kelley (5-9, 160) is a tough running back; Dan Wilson (6-0, 195), Rodd Miller (5-11, 180) and Adam Bluth (5-11, 190) are tough linebackers. Junior quarterback Scott Johnson (6-2, 185) is the Firebirds' field general. Transfer Bill Neilson, a 6-1, 225-pound linebacker with 4.8 speed, is back after a year in New Jersey.

Injuries and suspensions cut **CORONADO'S** season short. Watch for Joe Corte's club to rebound. "We finished strong, winning three of our last four games," reminds Corte, Scottsdale's winningest coach. The Dons' rushing game is strong as usual. Junior Joel Huerta (5-10, 165, 4.6) rushed for 1,337 yards - 352 in one game - and scored 17 TDs. Mike Mantle (5-10, 180, 4.6) missed last fall but gained 772 yards as a sophomore. Linemen Trevor Hinton (6-0, 200) and Jeremy Benes (6-2, 210) open the holes. Junior quarterback Nick Poole (6-0, 185) is the Dons' signal caller. Brian Allen (6-0, 190) is a solid linebacker. Altogether, 19 lettermen return.

Defense is the name of the game at **ARCADIA**, where one dozen Titans return from a 6-4 club which just missed the playoffs. Coach Ron Vick claims to have two all-state players in tackle Ryan Del Noce (6-4, 250) and guard Justin Johnson (6-1, 250), a transfer from Texas. Defensive linemen Daniel Rodgers (6-0, 205) and Matt Richards (6-3, 200)

METRO

4A Top 20

1. Tempe Buffaloes
2. Peoria Panthers
3. Washington Rams
4. Cactus Cobras
5. Westview Knights
6. Chaparral Firebirds
7. Centennial Coyotes
8. Coronado Dons
9. Ironwood Eagles
10. Paradise Valley Trojans
11. Arcadia Titans
12. Gilbert Tigers
13. Greenway Demons
14. Apollo Hawks
15. Tolleson Wolverines
16. Saguaro Sabercats
17. Goldwater Bulldogs
18. Cortez Colts
19. Glendale Cardinals
20. Moon Valley Rockets

earned all-league acclaim. Up front, Arcadia could start Del Noce, Johnson, junior Jeff O'Connor (6-3, 210) and sophomores Steve Matcha (6-5, 210), John Harvey (6-5, 210) and Doug Gourley (6-5, 245) across the front. If the Titans get a big performance out of junior quarterback Matt Cooley (5-10, 175), they could be hard to stop. In seven games he threw for 958 yards and seven TDs, completing 54% of his passes.

Twenty holdovers, most in the East Sky, give vastly improved **GILBERT** more firepower. Quarterback Zach Brannon (6-3, 180, 4.8), tailback Alan Delmont (5-10, 165, 4.6) and safety Will Umberger (6-3, 185, 4.7) are three of the best in the league. Junior linebacker Matt Clonts (5-10, 190) can hold his own. End Newly Tolf (5-11, 195) is another good defender. Tackle Chris Van Gorder (6-4, 265) is the biggest Tiger in camp, and fullback Dustin Hendrix (5-11, 200) is a hard runner. Both are seniors. The junior class is big, with linemen Zach Lisi (5-10, 200), Brad Payne (6-3, 200), Zach Cresap (6-5, 210), Lance Hunzeker (6-5,

205) and Ryan Chapman (6-5, 235) all expected to start.

Improvement is the name of the game at **APACHE JUNCTION**, winless in '95. Coach Gary Roebuck sees much improvement, especially at the skill positions, and the JV squad (6-2) had good talent. Still, senior leadership is the name of the game, so the Prospectors will look to quarterback Dan Johnson (6-1, 180), backs Jay Baugh (5-8, 140), Jerry Sanstead (5-10, 175) and Jake Owen (5-10, 175), along with linemen Alex Webb (6-2, 190), Eddie Macuiski (6-2, 235) and Stan Tanita (5-10, 195). "It was difficult stepping into a program at the last minute," says Roebuck. "However, we were much improved."

Steve Belles, the former St. Mary's all-state quarterback, takes over the new program at **DESERT MOUNTAIN**, newest school in the Scottsdale District. The Wolves' JV squad went 6-2 and Belles liked what he saw. "I thought, for a new school, the young men played with a lot of heart and learned about hard work," says the coach. For the varsity to have success, seniors like Jason Bradford, Eric Rollman and Jamon Nadeau must lead the way. Juniors Jordan Tate, Sasha Vinnikov, Eric Carrigan and Andrew Duarte - the only lineman in the bunch - have the skills. Speaking of linemen, that is the coaching staff's main concern.

4A WEST VALLEY REGION

1. Peoria (10-3)
2. Peoria Centennial (6-5)
3. Bullhead City Mohave (6-4)
4. Tolleson (4-6)
5. Scottsdale Saguaro (13-1)
6. Agua Fria (0-10)

PEORIA may be one year away, but you wouldn't notice it. Last year's rebuilding campaign went 10-3, including playoff wins of 42-3 over Page and 35-29 over Greenway. Ironwood sent the Panthers packing, 14-10. But that was last year. "We return a lot of players with playoff experience," says Doug Clapp, 101-25-3 (.802) at the school. "We return seven starters on offense and five on defense, which makes for a solid unit."

It may be the best-ever junior class at the school. The Class of '98 is loaded. Still, seniors must lead at crunch time, starting with center Jess Schuck (6-3, 273), the first Panther to touch the ball. Tackle Jason Young (6-3, 252), end Jeff Clark (6-1, 215), guard Joaquin Paramo (6-3, 238), receivers Kenny Woodberry (5-10, 174) and Ralph Perrotte (6-0,

TEMPE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

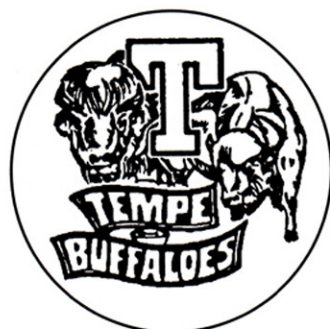
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Yesterday's Heroes



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Mountain View Win an Upset?

In 1986, seventh-ranked Mountain View, playing virtually perfect football from start to finish, dominated every phase of the game and beat unbeaten and top-ranked Moon Valley 31-7 in the Class AAA finals.

The Toros, which lost regular season games to Marcos de Niza and Mesa, finished 12-2. The Rockets, coached by Earl "Tiny" Putman, ended 13-1. Fans leaving Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe knew the Toros victory was no fluke.

"Emotion plays a big role in football games, more than most people will admit," Mountain View coach Jesse Parker said. "We got a great effort out of everyone today."

It was Parker's fourth state championship crown, his third at the Mesa school. In 1974 he guided Phoenix Camelback to its first and only title, a thrilling 22-20 upset of Phoenix St. Mary's.

Although the '86 Toros lost twice, they caught fire in the playoffs, beating Phoenix Alhambra 34-7, Tucson Amphi 21-14, Phoenix Maryvale 21-20, and Moon Valley in that order. The games with Maryvale and Amphi were real nail-biters. Mountain View came from behind to win both.

Maryvale's backfield featured running backs Phillippi Sparks, Darren Woodson and Kevin Galbreath. Sparks and Woodson are in the NFL today. Amphi's Michael Bates, another future pro, returned the game's opening kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown to stake a 7-0 lead.

A crowd estimated at 12,000 watched the finals in Tempe. Before the game, Mountain View tailback Brendon Zachary set a goal to rush for 100 yards. He easily lived up to that with 145 on 14 carries, including a touchdown on the Toros' first possession of the second quarter. He was stopped early in the game at the Moon Valley 20 yard line on a fourth down play. It was one of the few times Zachary or any of his teammates would be denied positive yardage.

After stopping Moon Valley cold on its first series, Mountain View got the ball back and marched 55 yards, Steve Lindhorst scoring from three yards out. "They (Moon Valley) made some mistakes right away," Lindhorst said afterwards. "Our line blew them off the line all game and our intensity was great."

Joel Holmes extra point made it 7-0.



Quarterback Trevor Cavanaugh dodges Marcos de Niza defender Brian Hooks (Mesa Tribune photo).

The Toros used seven different ball carriers in the first period, with Zachary, a 5-foot-8, 175-pound tailback, running 34 yards around end to give his team a 14-0 lead.

"We came in knowing we were going to win," said Zachary, who transferred to Mountain View from Los Angeles. "Our practices were more intense than usual. We were killing each other. It was the longest week of the season."

On the next possession, Moon Valley quarterback Sam McIntyre, who had thrown just two interceptions all season, threw his first of two. Darren DeGracie was the culprit on both occasions.

Special teams and the kicking game, two strong points for both clubs, plagued the Rockets. Big-play kick returner Mike Calmese fumbled a punt in the second period and Mountain View's Steve Behr recovered. Four plays later quarterback Trevor Cavanaugh fired a strike to wingback Mac Fitch and the Toros led at intermission, 21-0.

Mountain View out gained the Phoenix school 233-27 in the first half, limiting the Rockets' ground game to three yards

rushing. Even the battle of place-kickers went to Mountain View, with Holmes kicking a 42-yard field goal with five minutes left in the third period. Moon Valley's Scott Reutter, later injured in the third quarter, missed a 50-yarder just before the half.

"Defense has been a mainstay for us since the school opened," Parker added. "You've got to have a good defense to win. But our offense kept the ball a lot today, and that helps the defense."

Overall, Mountain View gained 433 yards, 332 on the ground. Moon Valley averted a shutout with 2:10 remaining when McIntyre connected with Calmese on a 72 yard scoring strike.

"We came through a tough, tough bracket," concluded Parker. "Amphi had the Bates' kids and Maryvale had more speed than anyone we played. We finally got to play a team with the same speed as ours."

As usual, Mountain View didn't have a star. In a credit to Parker's coaching, not one member of the Toros' state championship club made *The Arizona Republic's* all-state team.



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- * Eight league titles in last 17 years!
- * Independent state champions in 1977!
- * Class 5A state champions in 1978, 1983, 1986 and 1993!
- * Recorded seven straight shutouts between 1976-77!

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Peoria Comeback Clips Agua Fria

Unranked Peoria rebounded from an 0-3 early season start to finish with a 29-23 victory over Agua Fria in the finals at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe. The thriller, played as part of a double-header on a Saturday, preceded the AAA nightcap, where Mountain View crushed Moon Valley, 31-7.

Junior William Babb scored on a quarterback sneak with 49 seconds left as the Panthers rallied for the win, becoming Arizona's first state championship team with five losses.

Peoria (9-5) trailed 23-21 after Agua Fria's Brad Donahue kicked a record-setting 51 yard field goal with four minutes left. The Doug Clapp-coached Panthers then drove 68 yards in nine plays for Babb's score. He then hit tight end Steve Good with a two-point scoring conversion. Linebacker Dusty Weiland's interception at the Agua Fria 42-yard line with 28 seconds clinched the school's first-ever football title.

Agua Fria, playing in their third state championship game since 1970, finished 11-3. The Owls were coached by Tom Wheatley. Earlier state championship squads in 1970 and 1972 were coached by Ron Horn.

Donahue, whose 51 yard field goal was the longest ever in state championship play, had a 27-yarder three seconds into the fourth quarter to put the Owls ahead 20-14.

But Peoria's Eric Guliford, a 5-foot, 8-inch, 160-pound junior who returned three punts for touchdowns during the regular season, returned a punt 65 yards for a score, giving the Panthers a 21-20 lead with 6:48 left, setting the stage for the wild finish.

"The ball was kicked so high I guess they were thinking I was going to call a fair catch," said Guliford, who last year played for the NFL Carolina Panthers. "But it was late in the game and I didn't want to call a fair catch. I figured I'd take a chance and maybe get to the wall. They got all the blocking lined up for me and I took it in from there."

Agua Fria fullback Jamie Self scored the games first touchdown from three yards out. Peoria answered with short runs by Marvin Johnson and Marlo Cobos.

Then Bill Wolski, who averaged 41.0 yards per punt during the game, scooped up a Peoria fumble and stepped into the



Junior Eric Guliford, who today plays in the NFL, celebrates a 65-yard punt return for a score, giving Peoria a 21-20 lead (Arizona Republic photo).

end zone. That was followed by two short field goals by Donahue, giving the Owls a short lived 20-14 lead.

Earlier, the teams had met in November and Agua Fria prevailed, 17-14. Still, Wheatley didn't think that gave Peoria an advantage in the rematch. "I don't think that was a factor at all," he said. "We played them the first time and they were a very good team. If it would have been a factor, it would have been more evident in the beginning of the game, and obviously it wasn't."

A junior-dominated lineup, especially at the skill positions, was one reason for Peoria's 0-3 finish in September. Clapp thought his team was a year away.

"But we never lost faith, and that's a tribute to the kids," he said. "We knew we could get it together and you can see what happened today."

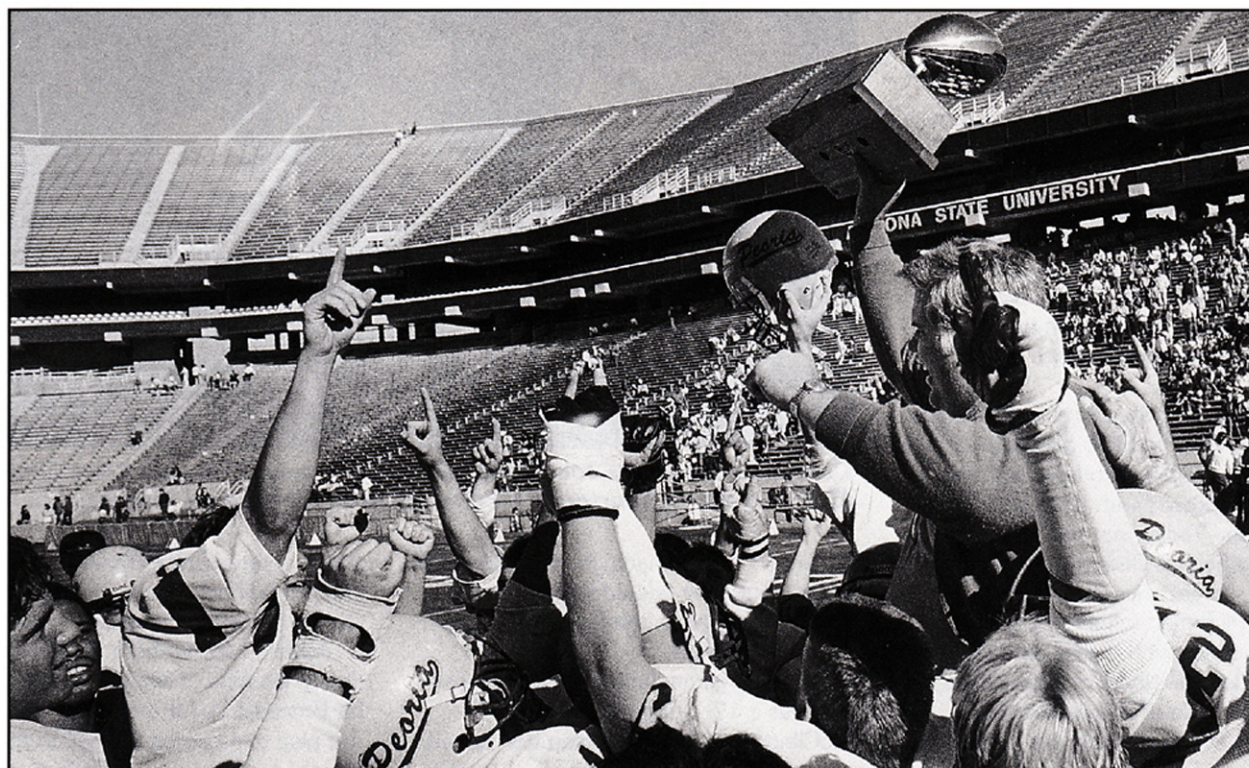
Ironically, it was Clapp's first year at the helm. He replaced Mark Matheson, who left to start the program at Ironwood. Under Matheson, Peoria's program stayed rock-solid, as the Panthers dropped a heart-breaker to Flagstaff in the 1984 title game, 7-0.

Since the '86 finals, Peoria's winning percentage is one of the best in the state. Few schools can match it. Clapps overall record entering the '96 campaign is 101-25-3 (.802) and three state championships.

*PEORIA HIGH SCHOOL



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1988, 1990

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*"Don't Miss Any of the Action as Peoria H.S. Begins Another
Championship Season!"*

Presented by Pure Energy Sports Productions

20 years ago (1976)

Coronado Sends Ed Out a Winner

Coronado's Ed Anderson didn't look like a man who had just lost a job. The school's head coach came out a winner in his final game, ending a 16-year coaching tenure at the Scottsdale school with a 13-0 season after a 17-12 win over South Mountain.

The game was played before an estimated 15,000 fans on a cold, windy night in Sun Devil Stadium on the campus of Arizona State University, Ed's alma mater.

Anderson, a former player himself at Globe High and Arizona State, was the only head football coach the school had known, and he finished his career with a 101-59-4 mark. He was the first Scottsdale area football coach to win 100 games.

Anderson won six city championships, five league titles and two divisional crowns during an era when Scottsdale schools were powerhouses with large student enrollments. Today, not one single Scottsdale School District member is in the state's largest classification.

Keith Plummer, longtime Coronado wrestling coach who guided some of the Dons' underclass gridders, remembers Anderson's style of communication.

"I can't ever remember him yelling at the kids," said Plummer, whose son Bob was a starting halfback on the '76 championship team. "He asked them to give their best effort. If they did that, he was satisfied, win or lose. A lot of kids came to Ed with their problems. There was a closeness there. He respected kids and they respected him."

Recently Anderson, along with Terry Brenner, a former Arizona State baseball player who was an all-city quarterback under Anderson in 1965, was inducted into the City of Scottsdale Sports Hall of Fame.

But Anderson's '76 squad was a special bunch. The team produced Arizona's Player of the Year, All-America quarterback Greg Brady, split end Brad Cooper, center Pat Blakey, defensive lineman Mike Comey and defensive back Plummer, all-staters all.

Brady, who later attended USC, passed for 1,323 yards in only nine games - 250 vs Chandler. He hooked up with Cooper on a 72-yarder against Scottsdale. During his two year varsity career, the Dons never lost a game when Brady started at quarterback.



Coronado defenders Tom Dragt (66), Mike Comey (74) and Clark Drozdowski (52) bury South quarterback Perry Johnson (Scottsdale Progress photo).

Greg Thibault made good on 36 of 37 extra points. He booted seven in one game. Defensively, the Dons picked off 22 enemy aeriels.

The key game during the regular season was a 17-7 upset of Tempe McClintock, when Anderson was forced to go with Cooper at quarterback because Brady was shelved with a shoulder injury. Cooper filled in a directed the Dons' attack for three weeks.

That's when the defense, led by the likes of Comey, Blakey, Plummer and Chris Drozdowski, took over.

After breezing past Tempe 31-6 in the Central Region finals, the Dons had to reach for something extra against Tucson Amphi. Late in the game Thibault hit a clutch field goal and Kent Wilson scored on a pass interception to give Coronado a 10-0 semifinal win. In the other matchup, South Mountain skunked outmanned St. Mary's 9-0.

In the finals, the pounding of Plummer and 200-pound fullback Bret Hostetler turned out to be the main weapons for a team which was better known for its passing. Coronado's surprising ground game churned out almost 300 yards - 190 by Plummer - to take control of the game.

"They were playing us for the pass so we thought it might be a good idea to run," Anderson told *The Phoenix Gazette* after the game.

South, coached by Earl Clupper and

led by quarterback Perry Johnson, threatened to pull out a fantastic, turnaround victory in the final quarter.

Johnson scored both Rebel touchdowns on runs of six and 44 yards. He hit Bruce Clark for a 63-yard pass-and-run play that carried the ball to the Coronado six to set up the first score.

The Dons' coaches praised Johnson, saying they "hadn't seen anybody like him all season long." He ran quarterback draws for 12 and 13 yards in a last, desperate South bid. But then he was sacked for a loss by Drozdowski and the Don defense reasserted its iron grip on the game.

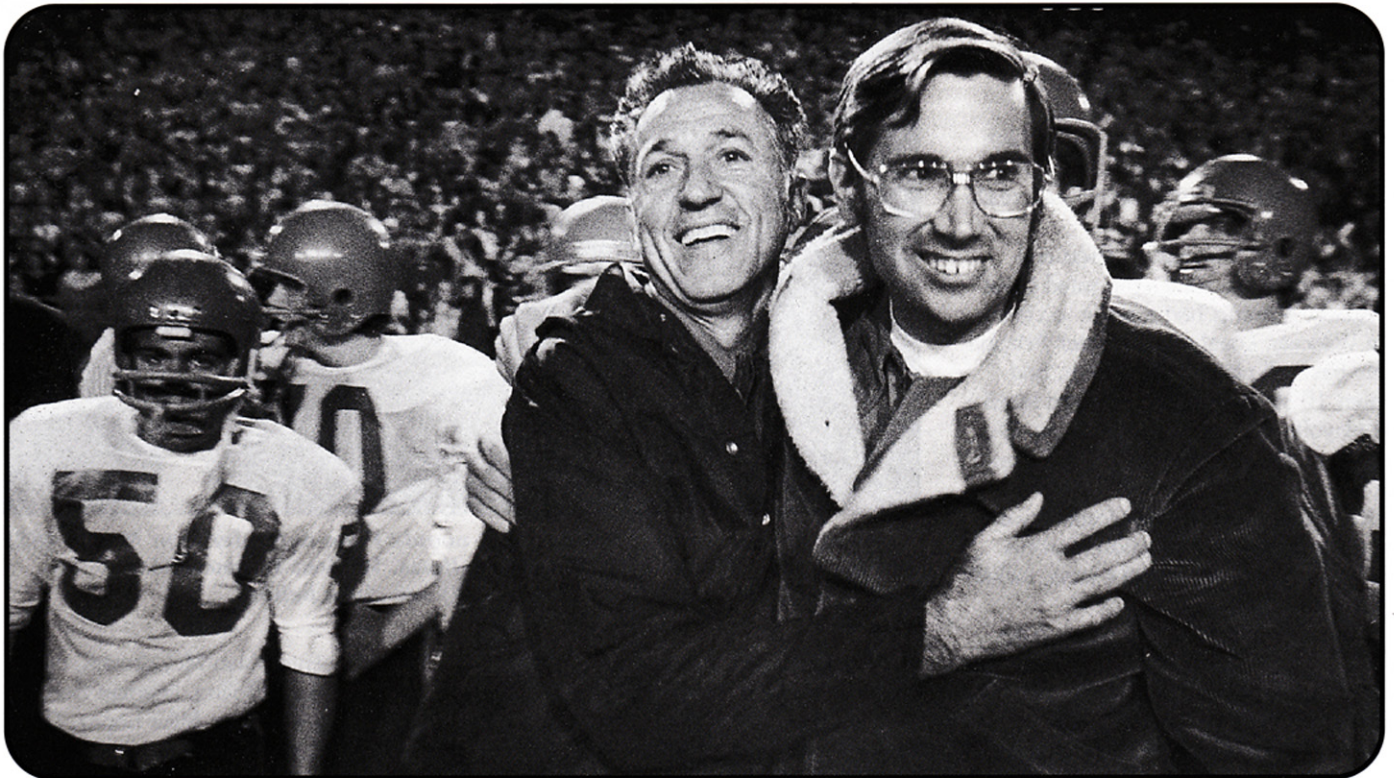
Three plays later, Coronado took over on downs and Anderson got his hands on the state championship trophy. It was the first such triumph for a Scottsdale school since nationally ranked Arcadia blitzed Tucson High 40-7 in the 1962 large school finals.

For the winners, Plummer scored on a short run, so did Mike Dunn and Thibault added a 23 yard field goal to round out the scoring. The Dons dominated possession - always the best way to beat explosive South - 68 plays to 39.

Anderson battled diabetes his entire life. Cancer finally claimed him on Sept. 5, 1989, one month before ceremonies which dedicated Coronado's stadium in his name. Today a plaque in the west end zone salutes him.



CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL



Saluting Arizona's 1976 Class AAA Champions!

Above, Coach Ed Anderson (left) and assistant Tom Dahl embrace after the Dons' 17-12 win over Phoenix South Mountain in the Class AAA championship game, played before 15,000 fans at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe.

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1976 RESULTS

Dons 14	Scottsdale Saguario	10
Dons 12	Scottsdale Arcadia	7
Dons 49	Scottsdale Chaparral	14
Dons 17	Tempe McClintock	7
Dons 18	Marcos de Niza	0
Dons 10	Mesa	0
Dons 7	Scottsdale	3
Dons 21	Mesa Westwood	14
Dons 31	Chandler	14
Dons 49	Yuma Kofa	24
Dons 31	Tempe	6
Dons 10	Tucson Amphi	0
Dons 17	South Mountain	12

No Denying Morenci This Time

The wishbone offense may not be in vogue among high school football teams today, but for Morenci High School years ago it was the straw that stirred the drink.

This Phelps Dodge mining town, located in southeastern Arizona, has had its ups and downs. Mostly downs. Bickering between employees and management is nothing new to the mining industry.

Still, the community, like all small towns in America, rallies around its high school football team. Especially a good one. Two decades ago Morenci was really good.

Prior to the '76 season, Page and Morenci were the state's top rated Class A squads. Morenci had a score to settle. The Wildcats, coached by former Arizona State baseball player Cliff Martin, had beaten 10 straight foes in '75 and faced the playoffs with great expectations. But Page sent them home with a 26-0 beating in the semifinals.

It became obvious that Morenci was the team to beat in '76 when Martin's Wildcats posted nine straight wins, including five shutouts.

Their only loss was to a larger AAA school, Tucson Santa Rita. The game was played at Morenci's old stadium, nicknamed "The Hill."

"We needed a map to find the place," said Santa Rita head coach Larry Williams, a former University of Arizona star. "The place was packed. People were everywhere. On the mountain, in the stands. Then they send their captains out. They had two guys bigger than anybody in Tucson. I mean, these kids were huge."

That night, Morenci's two captains were 6-5, 280-pound Ruben Quiroz and 6-5, 225-pound Reynaldo Peru, later a defensive lineman at Arizona State.

Still, Santa Rita prevailed, 21-9, handing the 'Cats their only loss during a 12-game season. "If I had to do it over again, I would have sent out our two smallest players, not our two biggest," said Martin later. "We were trying to show off. But the loss was a blessing in disguise. It proved to the kids we could be beaten. It kept them focused."

Morenci survived a tough, error-prone 21-18 semifinal win over Ajo. The difference in the game was Peru's place kicking. He made all three extra point tries. Ajo didn't. Meanwhile, Page, the '75 state runnerup, won a three-way playoff for the A-West title and then poured it on Window Rock, 34-14.



Morenci fullback Wayne Wagley (34) avoids Page defender Don Mosier (82) as all-state back Max Hamblin (15) follows. Wildcat linemen Alan McCormick (54) and Ruben Quiroz (74) are close behind.

"We finally got a rematch with Page," said Martin, who resides in Paradise Valley today. "We had to play them a lot better in the finals than we did a year ago."

They did.

At Scottsdale Saguaro High School, Morenci dominated the first quarter, outgaining Dave Cripe's Sand Devils 119 yards to 39. Yet the 'Cats found themselves on the short end of a 7-6 score after Page's Danny Beckwith picked up a fumbled pitch and scooted 73 yards to the end zone.

Then Morenci uncorked its wishbone for 388 yards and a 39-7 championship triumph. The school finally had a football crown to add to its fast growing trophy case.

Season leaders were D.J. Marin (1,154 yards rushing, 12 TDs), quarterback Bert Williams (813 yards passing, 8 TDs), tight end Peru (18 catches for 337 yards, 5 TDs), and flanker Steve Smith (22 catches, 372 yards, 3 TDs).

Peru, today the school's head football coach, added 26 extra points and five field goals. He totaled 73 points to rank among the leaders in the state.

Marin was right behind with 72 markers. Other standouts were Quiroz, the region's biggest tackle, guard Rick

Benitez, center Alan McCormick, defensive end Lance Boling, lineman Benny Sanchez, linebackers Mike Lopez, Dennis Tucker and Wade Wagley, plus lineman Danny Moreno.

The 'Cats showed excellent depth and balance in claiming the top prize. The campaign trail started against a New Mexico foe, a 17-7 season-opening win over Bayard Cobre, played on "The Hill." That was followed with a 61-13 spanking of Clifton, the Wildcats' closest rival.

Then Martin's club shutout five of its next six opponents, starting with a 7-0 upset of Class AA Safford. Only Willcox, coached by legendary "Boone" Jackson, crossed the Cats' goal, but Morenci prevailed, 31-14. In October, Silver City's Colts fell 7-0 on New Mexico soil.

After the championship game with Page, 16 Wildcats graduated, not to mention head coach Martin, who left to take the same job in Paradise Valley, located north of Phoenix.

The key player was Peru, who earned a scholarship to Arizona State and played four years under legendary Sun Devil head coach Frank Kush.

In a 1980 game with Oregon State, Peru had the rare thrill of intercepting a pass and rambling 73 yards - the longest return ever by a Sun Devil lineman.



Saluting the 1976
Morenci High School
WILDCATS



Twenty years ago, the 1976 Morenci Wildcats, coached by Cliff Martin, compiled a 10-1 record and won the Arizona Class A championship!

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**Defeated Page 39-7 in 1976 Class A finals!*

**Coach Cliff Martin Arizona's Class A Coach of the Year!*

**Two-way end Reynaldo Peru first-team member, '76 Super All-State Squad!*

**Peru, Alan McCormick, Rick Benetiz, Ben Sanchez & Steve Smith*

Arizona Republic first-team Class A All-States!

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Tucson's Badgers Edge Westwood

It was the "old guard" against the "new kid on the block." Tucson High vs Mesa Westwood. Played before an estimated 12,000 fans at Sun Devil Stadium, Tucson's Badgers scored with 41 seconds left to win the school's 11th state football crown since statehood.

Quarterback Art Monje hit a diving Keith Ritchie in the end zone with a 34 yard scoring strike to give the defending state champs a 14-7 win.

It was a thrilling climax to a brutal defensive game, one of the most physical in playoff history. Penalties wrecked Edgar "Mutt" Ford's Westwood team. An omen of things to come happened in the second period when Bill Hipps returned a Tucson punt 39 yards to the Badger 8-yard line. But it was called back on a clipping infraction.

Moments later the Badgers' Rene Madrid broke a 61-yard run to the Warrior 23-yard line to set up the game's first score. Then Monje, faking beautifully (a Badger trademark for half-a-century), tossed a 19 yard scoring pass to Ernie Fimbres on fourth down. Fimbres then booted the extra point.

Lineman Tim Boubelik recovered a Tucson fumble on the Badgers' nine-yard line to open the third period, but a great goal line stand, led by all-state tackle Bill Dawson, stopped Westwood cold.

However, Warrior quarterback Jay Ray Rokey (later a starting catcher at the University of Arizona) tossed a 32 yard pass to Roger Schmuck (later an All-American baseball player at ASU) at the Tucson nine.

Three plays later tailback Bob Soza, the state's leading scorer, dived over from the one. Bob Blake booted the PAT and the game was tied.

From that point on, Westwood couldn't move against the Badger line, led by Dawson, a 220-pound All-American (who later started at Michigan State), and 225-pound guard Leon Bryant.

Ironically, it was to be the last high school game coached by both team's coaches, Tucson's John Mallamo and Westwood's Ford.

"The difference was simply the penalties," Ford told *Phoenix Gazette* writer Steve Weston after the game. "We got them and they didn't. I'm not crying, though. Tucson has a real good ball club and coach John Mallamo deserves a lot of credit. Tucson fought for it. They wanted it as badly as we did."



Tucson's 50-man roster featured backup halfbacks like Abe Aragon (20), picking up yards against Tucson Rincon. Badgers won, 32-0.

The Warriors were slapped with nine penalties for 72 yards, Tucson four for 37. The Badgers rolled up 213 yards rushing to 111 for Westwood, while Tucson had 274 yards total offense to the Mesa school's 197.

Madrid led all ball carriers with 112 yards on 14 carries. The Badgers' Greg Leavitt, later a University of Pennsylvania halfback who was to tragically die in an automobile wreck, had 75 yards on 17 totes. Westwood's Soza, limited in the second half by a leg injury, got just 49 yards on 17 carries.

But it was Dawson who was tremendous. Westwood ball carriers bounced off him on contact. Toward the end of the game he threw reserve Warrior quarterback Dempsey Ford for a 17 yard loss.

Tucson's lone loss came in the second week of the season, a 19-13 setback at Phoenix Union. During a 49-13 win over Tucson Salpointe, Leavitt averaged 33.1 yards per carry on seven carries. Following a 48-20 win over Tucson

Sunnyside, the losers head coach, Elwood Turner, said, "This is the best Tucson High team that has played against me."

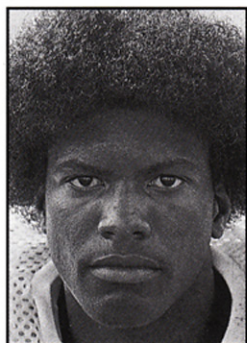
Both state finalist took opposite routes to the finals. Westwood earned a berth in the championship game by defeating Phoenix Maryvale in an electrifying play-off game. The regulation game ended 14-14 between the Warriors and Panthers, and a "Colorado Playoff" was required to decide the winner.

In Tucson, the Badgers' fleet stable of backs and quick-charging line trounced Phoenix St. Mary's 34-0 in the other semifinal match, played before 13,500 fans at the University of Arizona. The difference was Tucson's bruising line play, headed by Dawson.

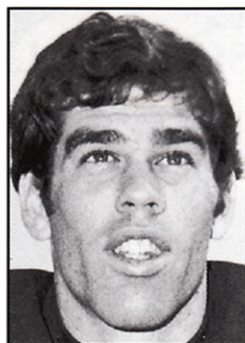
"I've had some long nights in this stadium," said St. Mary's head coach Ed Doherty, a former University of Arizona mentor. "This was one of them."

"Tucson High is by far the best football team we've played. They're incomparable. They're just great."

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Rodney Peete,
Sahuaro



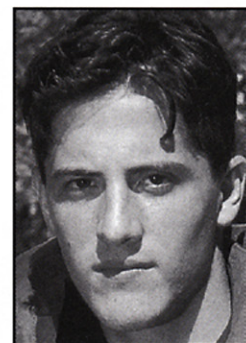
Fred Mortensen,
Tempe



Fred Enke, Jr.
Tucson



Grady Benton,
Mesa



Ryan Kealy,
St. Mary's

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL QUARTERBACK

1995 Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's
1994 Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope
1993 Jason Maas, Yuma
1992 Jason Verdugo, Tucson Canyon del Oro
1991 Anthony Sanders, Tucson Santa Rita
1990 Grady Benton, Mesa
1989 Aaron Santini, Tucson Santa Rita
1988 Bret Powers, Glendale Cactus
1987 John Bonds, Phoenix St. Mary's
1986 Bobby Valdez, Tucson Sunnyside
1985 Kent Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
1984 Steve Belles, Phoenix St. Mary's
1983 John Walker, Tempe Marcos de Niza
1982 Rodney Peete, Tucson Sahuaro (jr)
1981 Steve Stallworth, Yuma
1980 Trent Hutchinson, South Mountain
1979 Lloyd Coker, Phoenix Central
1978 Kevin Smith, Scottsdale Saguaro (jr)
1977 Mike Pagel, Phoenix Washington
1976 Greg Brady, Scottsdale Coronado
1975 Jim Krohn, Tucson Amphi
1974 Mark Whipple, Phoenix Camelback
1973 Rob Wilson, Scottsdale Coronado
1972 Greg Hubbell, Phoenix Central
1971 Fred Mortensen, Tempe
1970 Fred Mortensen, Tempe (jr)
1969 Danny White, Mesa Westwood
1968 Bill Mannion, Phoenix St. Mary's
1967 Ken Johnson, Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1966 John Svob, Tucson Catalina

1965 George Mattingly, Scottsdale Arcadia
1964 Dave Grangaard, Phoenix Camelback
1963 Rusty Tillman, Agua Fria
1962 Timmy Flood, Phoenix Brophy Prep
1961 Elby Bushong, Phoenix Washington
1960 Gary Deak, Scottsdale Arcadia
1959 Eddie Bricker, Miami
1958 John Power, Phoenix Camelback
1957 Eddie Wilson, Chandler
1956 Carlos Rodriguez, Morenci
1955 Jim Wolf, Yuma
1954 Ralph Hunsaker, Mesa
1953 Clyde Nielson, North Phoenix (jr)
1952 Pat Flood, Tucson
1951 Vaughn Patterson, North Phoenix (jr)
1950 James Black, Phoenix Union
1949 Buster Madariaga, Round Valley
1948 Don Ahee, Tucson
1947 Dan Russell, Mesa
1946 Gus Headington, Yuma
1945 Manuel Aja, Glendale
1944 Charles Beall, Mesa

FRED ENKE, JR., a three-sport star at Tucson High and the University of Arizona, was the first Arizona schoolboy to start at quarterback in the NFL. He played with Detroit (1948-51), Philadelphia (1952) and Baltimore (1953-54).

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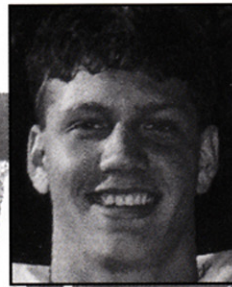
Riki Gray
Amphi



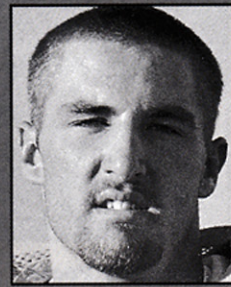
Fred Carr
Phoenix Union



Todd Shell
Mtn. View



Jim Sprotte
Blue Ridge



Steve Trejo
Casa Grande

1995 .. Steve Trejo, Casa Grande
1994 .. Jeff Johnson, Peoria
1993 .. Randy Hakes, Scottsdale Arcadia
1992 .. Jim Sprotte, Lakeside Blue Ridge
1991 .. Jon McGee, Tucson Sahuaro
1990 .. Aaron Franklin, Peoria
1989 .. Daniel Taplin, Tempe
1988 .. Luke Davis, Mesa Dobson
1987 .. Jeramiah Clark, Mesa
1986 .. Odel Stewart, Sierra Vista Buena
1985 .. Bob Davis, Mesa Mountain View
1984 .. Charles Matthews, Eloy Santa Cruz
1983 .. Tim Hicks, Sunnyslope
1982 .. Randall McDaniel, Agua Fria
1981 .. Darin Tupper, Phoenix Trevor Browne
1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe
1979 .. Todd Shell, Mesa Mountain View
1978 .. Kurt Whiteman, Scottsdale
1977 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater
1976 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphitheater (jr)
1975 .. Alan Edwards, Morenci
1974 .. Roark Shirley, Tempe Marcos de Niza
1973 .. Richard Rucker, Canyon del Oro
1972 .. Tim Peterson, Ajo
1971 .. Larry Gordon, Phoenix Union
1970 .. Bob Breunig, Phoenix Alhambra
1969 .. Bill Crowe, Tempe McClintock (jr)

1967 .. Jeff Quinn, Mesa Westwood
1966 .. Jay Ray Rokey, Mesa Westwood
1965 .. Bill Owsley, Phoenix North
1964 .. Ron Hendrix, Camelback
1963 .. Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia
1962 .. Fred Carr, Phoenix Union (jr)
1961 .. Ross Shannon, Phoenix North

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The Thousand-Mile League

In Arizona, there are ghost towns and dead towns. McNary, located in the White Mountains, is somewhere in between. Today, little remains of McNary, a shadowy semblance of its former self.

But 30 years ago that wasn't the case. If you followed Arizona high school football, you read about McNary, and often.

Pete Duca and assistant Fred Roybal were a coaching team and a big part of Arizona sports history. History in the old Class C North, today called the 1A North. Today the schools play 8-man football. But between 1938 and 1966, Arizona's tiny high schools, along with the rest of the country's small schools, played 6-man ball.

Foes had names like Phantoms, Frogs, Pirates and Lynx. The traveling budget was bigger than the equipment budget, to say the least.

"Once, during basketball, we covered three states and more than 1,000 miles," recalls Duca, who today lives in Arroyo Grande, California.

Yes, the travel budget in the old Class C North was tested to the limit. From McNary to Camp Verde, to Salome, to Ash Fork, to Grand Canyon, to Fredonia or Seligman. The thousand-mile league.

Like all small towns in America, high school sports was the only game in town. As many as 2,000 people called McNary home. Although the town had separate quarters for Negroes, Mexicans, Indians and Anglos, segregation stopped at the high school. There was little if any racial tension.

In the 1960s, McNary's treasure chest of talent started to grow. With less than 150 students, athletes like George Herman, Robert Hardy, Vince Perez, Willie Nash, Edward Russell, Leo Thomas, Willie Flanagan, Charles Bosley, David Kitcheyan, Jerry Russell, Billy Ward, Harding Stingley, Ernest Madrid, Frank Holland, Paul Flanagan, David Russell, Byron Stingley and Carl Russell - first team all-stars - became living legends.

During that decade the Green Devils won 85% of their games and averaged more points than any Class C school in history. Between 1964-66, Lucas and his



With all-state quarterback "Kit" Kitcheyan in the lineup, McNary's Green Devils never lost a game.

collection of speed merchants went unbeaten and proved why the A.I.A. adapted the "Mercy Rule," an effort to prevent routs.

"I don't know when they put the rule in," said Jewell Russell years later. "There was this one season ... McNary would have averaged 100 points per game. We're talking football here. Not basketball."

The season was 1966. With only nine boys in the graduating class, McNary went 8-0 and played only one full game, a 52-13 rout of the Grand Canyon Phantoms. Jerry Russell started the season with six touchdowns in a 51-6 win over Seligman. The game was called at halftime. In the state finals he gained 109 yards on eight carries and scored four TDs during a 53-6 rout of St. David. The Devils averaged 55.5 points to their opponents 5.4 - in little more than half a game.

The championship run started in the 1964 opener, when sophomore quarterback David "Kit" Kitcheyan threw six TD passes against Camp Verde.

"You hate to single out one player,

when we had so many good ones, but Kitcheyan was probably the best overall player we had then," claims Duca. "He was a perfect high school quarterback. He had great composure. Never got upset."

"What made McNary so strong was speed," said Ed Hubbard, Pima High's head coach at the time. "Speed-wise, it was always a mismatch."

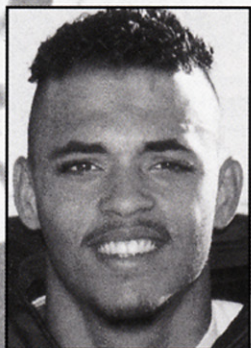
In 1967, Arizona's Class C schools switched from 6-man ball to 8-man. The change, for scrimmage purposes, involved at least four more capable players. Some of the state's 6-man clubs, including McNary, were struggling to keep players in uniform.

"You'd be surprised what a difference 8-man did to us," says Roybal from his home in San Manuel. "Just the two extra positions hurt us. We finished one game with seven players. We only had nine on the whole team."

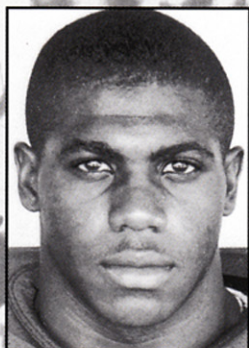
The school and the town died slowly. In 1977, only five students graduated. Football star Victor Shumate was the only senior boy.

The school closed in May of 1980.

BROWN-O'HAVER, Loss Claims Representatives Salutes the **WHIZZER WHITE AWARD WINNERS**



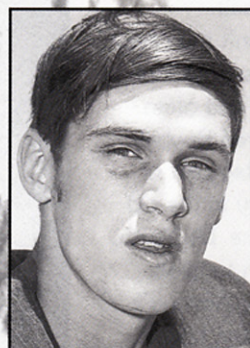
TAVON COOPER
Peoria



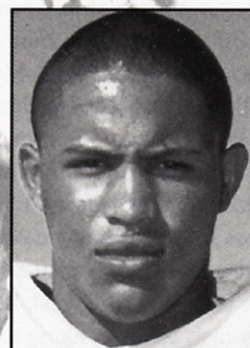
REGGIE MCGILL
St. Mary's



WHIZZER WHITE
Mesa High



JOE PETROSHUS
Tucson



MIKE BROWN
Saguaro

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING BACK

1995.....Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
1994.....Tavon Cooper, Peoria
1993.....Robert Holcombe, Mesa
1992.....Mike Mitchell, Phoenix Brophy Prep
1991.....Chris Hopkins, Tucson Salpointe
1990.....Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi
1989.....Brian Drew, Tempe McClintock
1988.....Michael Bates, Tucson Amphi
1987.....Kevin Galbreath, Phoenix Maryvale
1986.....Reggie McGill, Phoenix St. Mary's
1985.....Cleveland Colter, Jr., Tempe McClintock
1984.....David Winsley, Flagstaff (jr)
1983.....Paul Kasprzyk, Mesa Mountain View
1982.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria
1981.....Stan Gill, Flagstaff
1980.....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside
1979.....Fred Sims, Tucson Sunnyside (jr)
1978.....Mike Cade, Eloy Santa Cruz
1977.....Alvin Moore, Coolidge
1976.....Willard Reeves, Flagstaff Coconino
1975.....Brian Felix, Phoenix Union
1974.....David Mitchell, Phoenix St. Mary's (jr)
1973.....Ronnie Bonner, Mesa Westwood (jr)
1972.....Jesse Parker, Tucson Rincon
1971.....Manuel Jones, Phoenix Union
1970.....Don Washington, Agua Fria (jr)
1969.....Benny Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz
1968.....Joe Petroschus, Tucson
1967.....Tim Smith, Phoenix St. Mary's

1966.....Bob Soza, Mesa Westwood
1965.....Art Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz
1964.....LeRoy Peoples, Marana
1963.....James Dugan, Flagstaff
1962.....Everett "Moose" Rollins, Scottsdale Arcadia
1961.....Andy Livingston, Mesa
1960.....Jim Sims, Tucson
1959.....Bob Olson, South Mountain
1958.....Lewis Albright, Scottsdale
1957.....Clay Freney, Globe
1956.....Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955.....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union
1954.....George Greathouse, Phoenix Union (jr)
1953.....Kenny Aycock, North Phoenix
1952.....Joel Favara, Tucson
1951.....Hadley Hicks, Bisbee
1950.....Don Beasley, Mesa
1949.....Danny Seivert, Phoenix St. Mary's
1948.....Gib Dawson, Douglas
1947.....Marvin Wahlin, Casa Grande
1946.....Whizzer White, Mesa
1945.....Whizzer White, Mesa (jr)

WHIZZER WHITE, a 1946 high school All-American, was a three sport star at both Mesa High and Arizona State University, and later played in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.

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'Rabbits Rebound for '56 Crown

No one is really sure what happened to the 1955 Mesa High football team.

When the season concluded, the Jackrabbits were 5-3-1, one of the weakest campaigns in Edgar "Mutt" Fords tenure at the school. At least the season ended on a high note, a 21-6 win over California foe Santa Barbara seethed some wounds.

"I'm still not sure what happened that year," says Norm Shill, the long time multi-sport coach at Mesa Mountain View. "We (Class of '57) were unbeaten when we were freshmen and sophomores. Then we had a very mediocre year when we were juniors."

But Shill and the Class of '57 was undaunted by this turn of events. "We had enjoyed a lot of success and when we started fall practice we felt like we were the team to beat. We had the talent when we were juniors but for some reason we just never could get started."

Forty years later those sentiments are also echoed by Warren Livingston, a defensive back who was also one of a long line of great tailbacks featured in Ford's Wing-T offense.

"Looking back I think we did feel like we could win state," he says. "As freshmen we dominated and, while I went to the varsity as a sophomore, the others kept winning. We had some real good athletes. We felt we had a chance to win as seniors because it was the same group of guys who had played together since we were freshmen."

Shill, an all-state selection at quarterback and a two time all-state first baseman in baseball, directed this attack beyond handing off, pitching out or throwing passes.

"My senior year Mutt let me call all the plays," says Shill. "The coaches would send in plays on occasions but they pretty much let me call the game. We were able to make play-call changes at the line."

Livingston proved to be a worthy successor to earlier Ford tailbacks like Whizzer White, Don McClintock, Don Beasley, Sterling Bonner and Bill Crabtree. When the season was over he had scored 13 touchdowns, 11 rushing, one on a reception and the other on a



Warren Livingston returns a punt through a maze of Tucson defenders.

kickoff return.

In an offense geared toward the ground game, Shill managed to keep opposition off balance with an air game that produced 10 touchdowns.

Enroute to the mythical state title, Mesa was thoroughly tested across their first four games, and the only "easy" assignment was a 26-7 romp past Glendale.

The lidlifter was a 20-16 victory over Phoenix North, and after the win over Glendale, Phoenix West and troublesome Yuma loomed ahead.

The 'Rabbits survived the Thunderbirds as Livingston, following a West touchdown, brought back the ensuing kickoff 95 yards for the winning score in a 20-13 victory.

That set the stage for the long junket to Yuma and, for the second straight year, the Criminals nipped the 'Rabbits, salvaging a one point victory.

"Yuma was a game where we just couldn't score," Livingston recalled with a sigh. "We marched on them but we just couldn't get it in the end zone."

Adds Shill, "That was a tough ball game, a knock down drag out fight. We drove all over the field but couldn't score. We got down to the two late in the game

but their middle guard, Rockne Anderson, broke through and caused a fumble. That game was a nightmare."

It was the only nightmare. Rebounding nicely, they flattened two Tucson foes by a combined 86-34 margin. Tucson's Badgers were punished, 31-7. Shill threw for two scores, then Amphitheater was buried, 55-27, with Livingston tallying four times, and linemen Wayne Hunsaker and Larry Mulleneaux both returning fumbles for scores.

After back-to-back losses to Phoenix Union in 1954-55, the 'Rabbits were ready for a little revenge. They got it, 26-19, as Shill threw for two scores and Livingston ran for another.

Phoenix Camelback was dispatched of before the 'Rabbits stepped out of state to turn back Los Angeles Garfield, 13-0.

In the season finale with South Mountain, Mesa needed a win to annex the Class AA crown. The 'Rabbits prevailed, 21-14. The 1-2 punch rose to the occasion, as Shill fired a touchdown pass to Bob Skousen and Livingston ran for two scores.

That Class of '57 still wonders what happened in 1955, but the '56 title run erased a lot of bad memories.

By Skip Bryant

'46 Belonged to the Whizzer

The United States and the rest of the world were duly marking the first anniversary of the end of World War II when the Mesa High football team assembled for its first practice in the summer of 1946.

Typical of all first day practices, the enthusiastic Jackrabbits looked forward to another big season. But, in truth, most of the Great Depression era and the war years had not been kind to Mesa gridiron fortunes.

(The 1933 state champions posted a sparkling 10-1 record. It was to be Mesa's last football title for a long time. The next 12 years were marked by one frustration after another. The Phoenix Union Coyotes and Tucson Badgers rained on Mesa's parade, ruining great 10-1-1, 11-2, 11-1-1, 9-4-1 and 9-3-1 campaigns. During World War II, Tucson scored eight straight wins over Mesa, six during a 32-game win streak.)

In the late summer of '46 the 'Rabbits had some obvious pluses. They had settled into the wing-T offense that coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford installed in 1945, his first of a 17-year stint at the school.

Then there was the return of all-state tailback Wilford "Whizzer" White, the best of Mutt's great string of tailbacks developed across a 32-year prep coaching career. Ford also had experience on hand at quarterback in Dan Russell.

"We were no different than any other kids any other year," remembers White. "Like all kids we went out there those first days of practice and thought we'd be the best."

"We'd lost a lot of good players from the year before, particularly linemen. But we had good speed and quickness and we had good chemistry, we all played well together."

Ford's penchant for looking for potential diamonds in the rough paid huge dividends when he found a future all-stater in Ken Armistead.

"Coach Ford saw me in PE class my junior year and asked me to come out for spring football. I guess he picked up on the fact I was big and stupid," Armistead says today with a laugh.

Ford struck gold. Armistead took over at starting left tackle and played with such skill and consistency that he was named all-state that year along with White and junior center Bill Workman.

"I was surprised to make all-state," Armistead adds. "I thought everyone else on our line should have made it ahead of



White, Don Millet (44) and Dave Rogers (40) take a breather.

me. We really had a fine group of linemen that year."

The opening week of the season was a revelation. Tucson High, expected to continue to dominate, saw its 32-game win streak snapped in El Paso, Texas.

Meanwhile, White and the 'Rabbits served notice they were headed for a banner season. On his second carry of the year, White broke away on a 90 yard touchdown. He later went 67 and 10 yards for scores and kicked two conversions as Mesa had themselves a season opening win, 26-6 over Phoenix Union.

One week later North made waves early, driving to score from the opening kickoff. Fielding the ensuing kickoff on his 22, White went right, hit the sidelines and turned up field to race 78 yards for a touchdown.

Up 7-6 on White's extra point, the 'Rabbits stuffed the Mustangs, forcing a punt. White fielded this one at his own 33, went right, hit the sidelines, then fled up field for 67 yards and another score. His conversion made it 14-6, and Mesa was on its way to a 34-12 victory, White later scoring again.

With El Paso Bowie players screaming "Donde la Pelota," White exploded for four touchdowns in a 35-6 triumph, then came back to score three times in a 28-6

win over Phoenix St. Mary's. That set the stage for the first of two meetings with the Tucson Badgers, victors in the last eight meetings with Mesa.

"Tucson was the team to beat in all sports," says White. "That was the team we pointed for more than anyone else we played."

The "Whizzer" rushed for 121 yards on 20 carries, tallied twice and kicked an extra point. But there was a second conversion try, and White says with a sigh, "I kicked it and it hit the upright. It cost us a tie." Tucson won 14-13.

Where the 1945 club faltered after losing to Tucson, the '46 team won tough games the next two weeks. White went 89 and 45 yards as Glendale fell, 20-6. He got all three scores on short runs in a hard hitting 18-12 victory over Yuma.

After a wild 26-26 tie with El Paso High, and a 46-20 scoring feast against Phoenix Union, the stage was set for the second meeting with Tucson, a game that again hinged on conversions.

White broke away for 17 yards, and, about to go down on a tackle, lateraled to fullback Maurice McCulla, who went the final 10 yards. "My conversion just squeezed over," White laughed, describing a kick that cleared the crossbar by inches. That was good enough. Tucson's Lee "Legs" Carey, whose two kicks won the first game, saw his try for a tie dribble off to the left, no good.

That 7-6 win clinched the mythical state title and, a week later, Coolidge was blasted 42-0 to wrap up a solid 9-1-1 campaign.

White rushed for 1,991 yards, scored 26 touchdowns and 181 points, all state single season records. In three years of varsity play, Mesa's favorite son rushed for 4,307 yards, scored 52 touchdowns and 353 points. Four years later he was an All-American at Arizona State.

Once the 12-year title drought ended, Mesa embarked on a golden era of high school football. More mythical crowns followed - in 1947, 1950, 1956 and 1958. When the Arizona Interscholastic Association began the playoffs in 1959, Mesa won two of the first five.

More significantly, from that moment on, to win a state title in Arizona's large school ranks required going through Mesa, first the Jackrabbits and then its sister schools.

Fifty summers ago no one could have forecast that.

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MESA HIGH FOOTBALL TEAM

Fifty years ago Coach Edgar "Mutt" Ford's Jackrabbits won the Arizona state championship. This fall the Mesa City Sports Hall of Fame will pay tribute to the team, its members and accomplishments. In addition to the tribute to the '46 team, many Mesa athletes will be inducted in the Hall of Fame. The banquet is open to the public. If you'd like information about attendance, please call for details, 898-5665, ext. 1480.

Gib Dawson Big Hit in Douglas

The opponent was Nogales High. The date was Nov. 9, 1946, "Gib Dawson Day" at Douglas High.

Dawson, a 49-year-old father of three, stood on the high school football field in southeastern Arizona and haltingly delivered a speech to 4,000 listeners.

After the game he went into the Bulldogs' locker room to talk to the players. "It was so quiet," he told *Arizona Republic* sports director Verne Boatner, "you could hear a pin drop. I kind of got choked up. I turned and looked at my sons. There were tears in their eyes."

Football jersey No. 33 officially was retired and enshrined in the high school trophy case. "Gib Dawson Day" in Douglas came to an end.

Wilford "Whizzer" White of Mesa and Arizona State fame often is acknowledged as the greatest high school football player produced in Arizona.

However, there are some who maintain that honor would belong to Gib Dawson had he not chosen to attend an out-of-state college.

Dawson and White both played for the South in the 1946 Arizona High School All-Star Game, a dream backfield that included Tucson's Lee "Legs" Carey and Yuma's Gus Headington. White was a senior and Dawson a sophomore.

Old-timers in Douglas still remember the night 50 years ago when Tucson High - the scourge of the Southwest - came to town. Coach Rollin T. Gridley's powerful Badgers, led by Carey, were all but invincible in those days. Between 1943-45, Tucson won 32 consecutive games, a state record.

But Dawson scored the first two times he touched the ball (92 yard kickoff return and a 68 yard sprint), and Douglas rolled, 25-14. "That was the night I beat my dad out of a car," said Dawson years later from his home in Phoenix. "Before I went to the stadium, my dad said if I ran the kickoff back for a touchdown he'd see about getting me a car."

"Well, lo-and-behold, they kicked off, I caught the ball and the next thing I knew I was at the other end."

The Douglas head coach was Frank Sancet, later a legendary baseball mentor at the University of Arizona. "I still remember that kickoff," said Sancet, who was in his final year at Douglas before being replaced by Otis Coffey. "Gib didn't play the ball very well. He messed around



Dawson, who played four years at Texas, later joined the Green Bay Packers.

with it at the five ... took off for the right sideline and was gone."

Before a chilly throng of 4,000, the 'Dogs became the first Arizona school to beat Tucson High in football in five years. They finished a near-perfect campaign with a 9-1 slate, losing an early matchup at Glendale, 12-7.

In 1945, Dawson scored five touchdowns as a skinny freshman for the Douglas' varsity. He was so outstanding that Sancet had him scrimmaging with the varsity in the eighth grade.

The rest is history.

He had an 80 yard punt against Bisbee in 1946, ran 101 yards with a fumble against Tucson Amphi in '47, went 95 yards with a punt against El Paso Bowie and returned a kickoff 97 yards against Miami, both in '48. He once scored five touchdowns against Nogales - 53 during his prep career.

After another surprising win over Tucson in '48, popular sports writer Skibo McKay of *The Tucson Citizen* wrote, "Dawson's heroics was one of the most spectacular individual all-around per-

formances ever seen on an Arizona prep field."

At the University of Texas, Dawson ran 100 yards in 9.6 seconds, led the Longhorns in scoring, rushing and pass receiving, was a two-time All-Southwest Conference pick and played in two Cotton Bowls.

His 14.4-yard rushing average against North Carolina in 1951 was a school record. It took 20 years to break his career rushing record. In a 1952 game against Arkansas, he scored four touchdowns and kicked six extra points.

He closed out his career at the College All-Star Game in Chicago against the Detroit Lions. He scored on a 17 yard touchdown run and kicked a 29 yard field goal, led the college stars in rushing and was named the game's MVP.

Dawson, who played two seasons with the Green Bay Packers before being called into military service, was once asked if he had any regrets.

"Just one," he replied. "That I didn't go back to Green Bay after I got out of the service."

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1978JUNIOR SOLOMON
.....Coolidge
1977CHARLES COBBS
.....Florence
1976JOHN MISTLER
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1975RON WASHINGTON
.....Tempe McClintock
1974SPEEDY HART
.....Phoenix St. Mary's



Former Mesa receiver Orlando McKay later played for the University of Washington and the Green Bay Packers.

1973PRESTON DENNARD
.....Tempe Marcos de Niza
1972DON WOODS
.....Mesa
1971WILLIE SCROGGINS
.....Safford
1970DARION GILBERT
.....Phoenix Union
1969LARRY SHORTY
.....Eloy Santa Cruz
1968ED WEATHERSPOON
.....Globe
1967CALVIN DEMORY
.....South Mountain
1966MIKE BOWLING
.....Avondale Agua Fria
1965BILL DIPLEY
.....Scottsdale Arcadia (jr)
1964BILL SORCINELLI
.....Phoenix Camelback
1963BOB WALLACE
.....South Mountain
1962FRED CARR
.....Phoenix Union (jr)
1961WILLIE NASH
.....McNary (6-man)
1960MORRISON WARREN
.....South Mountain
1959ANDY STOGLIN
.....Phoenix Union
1958GEORGE HEARD
.....South Mountain
1957STEVE VAUGHN
.....Phoenix North
1956GORDON SMITH
.....Phoenix West
1955WILLIE PEETE
.....Mesa
1954BEN ANDERSON
.....Phoenix North
1953CHARLES CHRISTOPHER
.....Phoenix Carver
1952JACK STOVALL
.....Phoenix St. Mary's

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Benson Unbeatable in Six-Man Race



At rival St. David, Bill Ohnesorgen throws a block (center) and Dell Haverty (right) sweeps the end.

It started with a snake dance. It ended with an undefeated season. Students at Benson High staged a pep rally on Wednesday night, highlighted by a snake dance and climaxed with a bonfire.

They marched down the town's main street, yelling and singing, then returned to the campus where a huge bonfire was ignited, officially opening the 1946 football season.

Coach Elton Harper was introduced. He in turn introduced the '46 Bobcat squad, who were then toasted with more appropriate yells. The rally was two days before the season opener with Patagonia.

It worked. The 'Cats beat the Lobos 37-26. It was the Harpermen's closest contest of the season. Two months later Benson was the only unbeaten, untied squad in the state. Scottsdale finished 9-1 in their six-man loop, but a 14-12 loss to Gilbert cost them votes. Benson was presented a mythical state six-man championship cup by the sports department of *The Arizona Daily Star*.

Halfback Dell Haverty, a 5-9, 165-pound senior, was the pride of the San Pedro Valley. In seven games he scored 29 touchdowns and 178 points, and was hailed as one of the state's best six-man players.

Harper's crew averaged 46.3 points to

their opponents 15.9, playing the most exciting, wide open, free scoring brand of football in the country.

Since before the war, Benson and most small American high schools played six-man ball. From the very start, Benson was a Southern Arizona power, winning back-to-back region crowns under Neil Goodman. Harper took over in 1944, one year before the war ended.

Today, the speed limit on Interstate-10 is 75 miles-per-hour. Drive much faster and you'll miss Benson, located off the highway, between Tucson and Willcox.

You couldn't miss it in 1946. World War II was over. More and more travelers ventured into Arizona. The Benson Highway went right through town. The Grand Canyon State's population was starting to boom. In high school football the biggest noise came from Cochise County, where Benson's Bobcats roamed.

"It's always best to decide a champion on the playing field," wrote legendary sports editor Arnott Duncan in his weekly column, *Duncan With Dunc*. "But it doesn't appear that a game between Benson and Scottsdale can be arranged, so we have to go on scores and observation. It will take a real strong squad to beat these Bobcats. Coach Harper has done a terrific job."

Center Vernon Lee joined Haverty on the all-state team, picked by *The Star*. But by no means were they the Bobcats' only stars.

In the opening stanza with Patagonia, Edgar Hughes hit Lee (centers are eligible) with a touchdown pass and the race was on. Pete Gomez, John Nash, Bill Ohnesorgen, Marvin Brown and Haverty all scored.

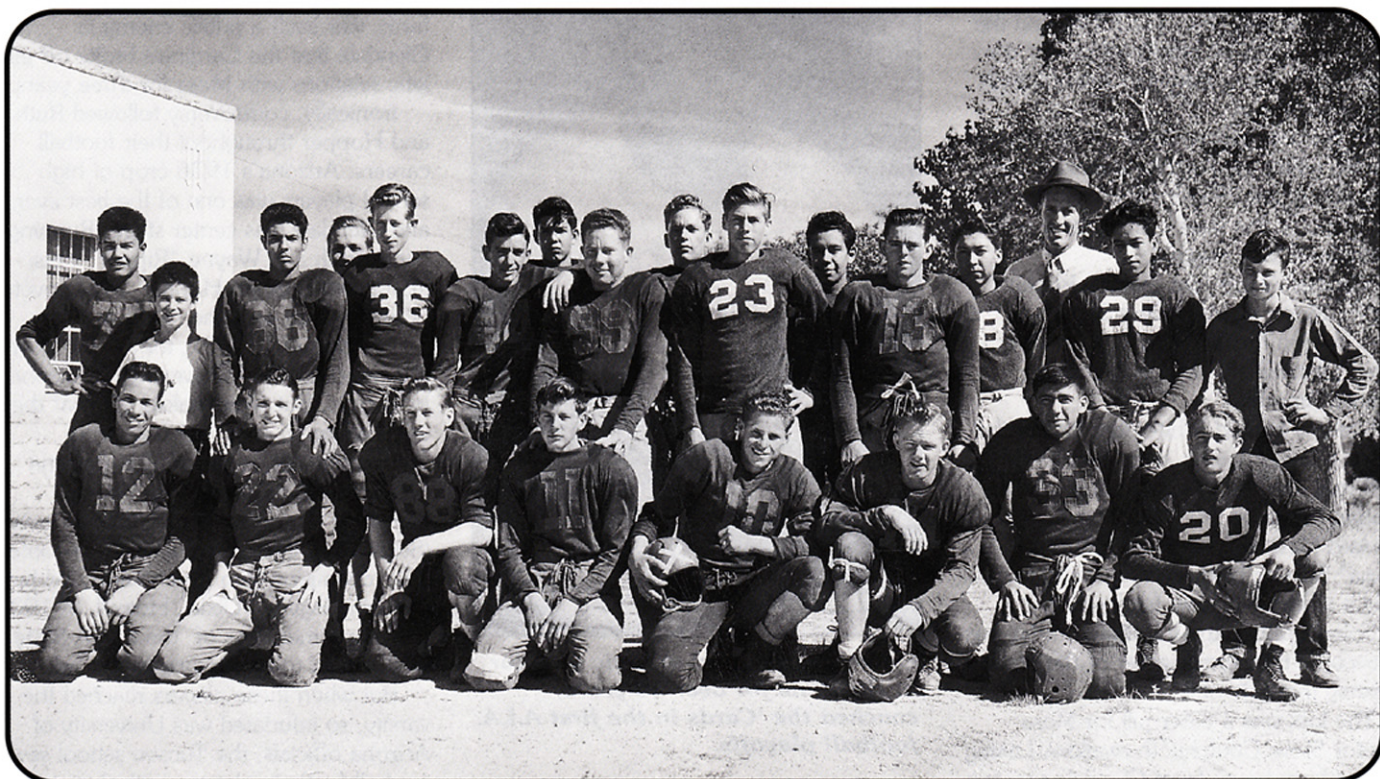
Playing at home, Benson had an easy time with rival Willcox, smothering the Cowboys, 32-14. One week later the 'Cats overwhelmed an inferior Tombstone aggregation, 45-6. Benson had the game well in hand from start to finish, and Harper used every one of his 21 players.

In a rematch with Willcox, the fast moving 'Cats, sparked again by brilliant play by Haverty, added another tally on the credit side of the books with a 39-6 triumph. Benson intercepted six passes. Against a spirited St. David aggregation, Haverty scored seven touchdowns as the Harpermen prevailed, 58-32. The Tigers aerial tandem of Dean Goodman and Bert Merrill was equally impressive.

Haverty scored six touchdowns three weeks later when Benson walloped St. David in a rematch, hiking their winning streak to seven. Hughes and Gomez tallied the other Bobcat touchdowns.



BENSON HIGH SCHOOL



Saluting Arizona's 1946 Six-Man Champions!

With Head Coach Elton Harper and First Team All-Staters Dell Haverty (HB) & Vernon Lee (C), the Bobcats averaged 46.3 points per game and were awarded the Six-Man State Championship Cup by *The Arizona Daily Star*.

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1946 BOBCAT RESULTS (7-0-0)

Bobcats 37	Patagonia 26
Bobcats 32	Willcox 14
Bobcats 45	Tombstone 6
Bobcats 39	Willcox 6
Bobcats 58	St. David 32
Bobcats 58	Patagonia 19
Bobcats 54	St. David 8

Crouch "Boiled" by Mesa's Claim

Coach Bob "Red" Crouch of the Glendale Cardinals looked down the dressing room hall at Goodwin Stadium in Tempe and realized with a jolt that there were three teams dressed to play one game.

The date was Dec. 11, 1936, and the lid was about to be blown off one of the most bitter sports stories in Arizona high school history.

At the conclusion of the 1936 regular season, when the Arizona Interscholastic Association felt different about post season playoffs, the state's first ever football tournament was staged.

The state's top four teams - Phoenix Union, Mesa, Glendale and Superior - were chosen for the playoffs. The draw pitted Glendale vs Mesa and Union against Superior.

Union's Harold Whiteman, one of the nation's fastest backs, scored on a 45-yard run, and the Coyotes got a safety, beating Superior 9-0. Then the 'Cards blanked Mesa 6-0 when end Ramon "Tusa" Solarez blocked a punt and recovered it in the end zone for a score.

Solarez didn't know it then, but he was to become the storm center of the controversy that followed.

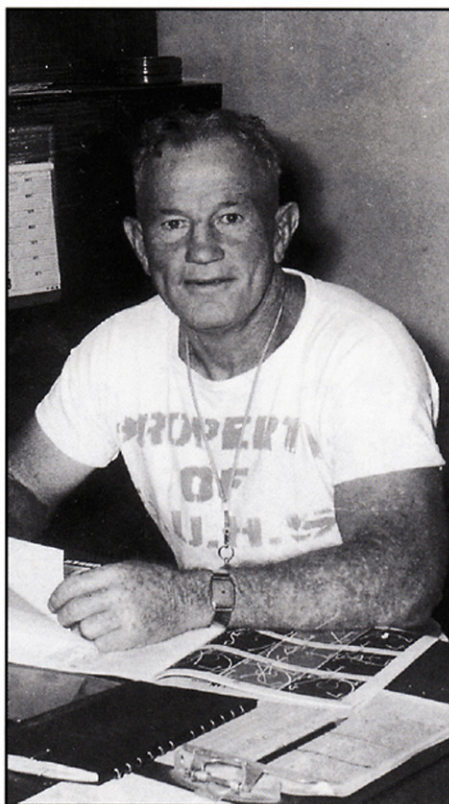
The loss was a bitter pill for Mesa mentor Steve Coutchie to swallow. Losing to the "farm boys" from Glendale was too much to handle. After the game he began checking on the ages of several Glendale players, including all-stars Walt Ruth, Alex Popoff and Solarez. To Coutchie they looked too old.

Ruth, later a star running back at Arizona State, and Popoff were found to be under the age limit of 21, but there was doubt about Solarez, because no birth certificate could be found.

Glendale principal C.A. Yeoman obtained sworn statements for the A.I.A. from Solarez's parents and the midwife who attended his birth, claiming he was only 20. But Coutchie, through painstaking detective work, uncovered old baptismal records showing a Roman Solarez was born near Wickenburg in 1915.

Armed with this record, he brought his Mesa team to the stadium at Tempe an hour before Glendale was to play Phoenix in the state championship game.

"Coutchie showed me the baptismal record after I'd taken our boys out onto the field," Crouch told *Arizona Republic* sports writer Dean Smith years later. "So I went to Robbie Robinson, Phoenix



Crouch, coach and athletic director at Glendale for over 40 years, coached the 'Cards in the first A.I.A. football playoffs.

Union's coach, and told him that if he thought this new evidence contradicted ours, we wouldn't play him.

"Robinson said 'this paper doesn't change anything in my mind - go ahead and use Solarez. We want to play your best team.' So we went ahead with the game."

The game, played before 5,000 spectators, went on as scheduled. Glendale won 10-6 on a 20-yard touchdown run by Ruth and a 27-yard field goal by Rex Hopper. But Glendale's celebration was short-lived.

Two days later the A.I.A. executive committee accepted the certificate uncovered by Coutchie as genuine. They called Glendale's games forfeited and ruled that there would be no official state champion for 1936.

Glendale officials contested the ruling, and even had an X-ray examination made of Solarez's bones. But the results were inconclusive and the A.I.A. ruling stood.

"I was awfully bitter about the affair then," recalled Crouch, who died in

1990. "I'm reminded of it occasionally with no great pleasure. That really boiled me. No wonder the A.I.A. junked a football tournament."

Coutchie, who later coached at Arizona State and moved to Arkansas to farm, was such a public enemy in Glendale that the Cardinals broke off athletic relations with Mesa for three years.

Ironically, controversy followed Ruth and Hopper throughout their football careers. Arizona's 1936 crop of high school players was one of the best ever, and Glendale was center stage. Running backs Ruth and Wayne "Ripper" Pitts, along with lineman Hopper, were coveted by colleges all over the southwest.

On August 1, 1937, they were all on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson. But word leaked out that they were unhappy and, with help from Tempe officials, re-enrolled at Arizona State. So did all-state backs Hascall Henshaw (Tombstone) and "Dub" Davis (Scottsdale), later members of two conference champion Sun Bowl teams, led by coaching legend "Dixie" Howell. In 1937, they were members of the first A-State frosh squad to be Arizona in football.

But when these players reached the varsity, so infuriated was University of Arizona officials, the Tucson school severed all football relations with their instate rival until the Glendale players graduated.

Crouch, a standout running back at Arizona when the Wildcats upset national power UCLA in 1927, retired from his Glendale post in 1970. More than 600 people attended his retirement party.

"He's the only guy I knew of who got a pickup truck and a camper from the board of education when he retired," says Jim Threadgill, today the Cardinals' athletic director.

Crouch, who was 85 when he died, was a charter member of the Arizona Coaches Association Sports Hall of Fame. He also coached basketball and baseball and was a popular figure on the Cardinal campus for four decades. He coached sons of Glendale athletes he coached 20 and 25 years earlier.

Besides football, he was an outstanding boxer in college and later played semi-pro football for the San Francisco Athletic Club.

In 1930, he replaced Vernon Bice at Glendale and went on to coach many of the town's most famous high school athletes.

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168), end Joe Clark (6-0, 248) and linebacker Joey Cerna (6-0, 186) highlight the senior crop. Then there's the juniors, starting with defensive backs Brandon Falkner (6-1, 181) and Brian Wojtkowski (6-0, 181). Young Keith Jennings (5-11, 192) is the Panthers' signal caller. Kyran Jones (6-1, 176), Jelani Falkner (5-11, 194) and Mike Wojtkowski (6-0, 179) round out the backfield. Josh Jones (6-4, 258), Tony Hernandez (6-4, 258), Randy Zimmerman (6-4, 243) and Billy Cantwell (6-4, 252) are good-sized linemen. Young Nathan Burdick (6-3, 196) will start at linebacker. Altogether, 32 players look for another banner season in Pantherland.

In its third year of varsity play, **CENTENNIAL** tied for the region championship, beat state champ Saguaro 26-23, and advanced to the playoffs for the first time. State runnerup Ironwood ended the Coyotes record at 6-5. Coach Richard Taylor returns 26 lettermen, including four of the top players in the West Valley Region: wide receiver Brent Williams (6-2, 175, 4.6), halfback Anthony Hall (5-8, 155, 4.4), linebacker Greg Mitchell (6-1, 208, 4.9) and lineman Richard Hancock (5-10, 215, 4.8). Luie Contreras (5-10, 172, 4.7) joins Hall in the backfield. Shayne Swingle and Mike Flonacher, 240-pounders, give the Coyotes good blocking up front.

In Bullhead City, **MOHAVE HIGH**, boasting a power-packed line and a speedy, big backfield, rolled to its best season since 1983. The Thunderbirds took state champ Saguaro to the wire, bowing 20-14 in a real donnybrook. Coach Terry King returns a lineup that looks just as tough - at least on paper. Lightest man on the line is 190-pound guard Tom Vick. King will have 200-pounders at both ends, tackles and right guard. Big threat is 6-3, 235-pound fullback Moses Love, a three-year letterman and a real bulldozer. Last year he averaged 9.4 yards per carry and gained 1,303 yards.

Look for **TOLLESON** to improve, as they did last year. Coach Dan Widmaier returns eight defensive starters and that's good news. Best of the lot is all-region pick Eric Guzman (6-1, 205, 4.7), a slick linebacker who made 95 tackles. Dwight Huff (6-1, 190) is another good backer. DeRon Gilbert (6-0, 180) is a promising sophomore. Levi Presley (6-5, 250) is a big defensive end. Offensively, Shawn Alvarar (6-1, 180) lines up at tailback, Mark Tioxen (5-9, 200) starts at guard, and DaRell Gilbert (5-8, 165) is a good, quick receiver.

You can't get much better than **SCOTTSDALE SAGUARO**, 13-1 state champs. Only Centennial spoiled a perfect season, when the Coyotes nipped the Sabercats, 26-23. Saguaro played that game without player of the year Mike Brown, a University of Nebraska signee. But graduation cleaned out the cupboard - in more ways than one. Head coach Tim Beck left for Missouri. Assistant Walt Sword takes over a club which saw 95% of its starters pick up diploma's. With the opening of Desert Mountain, enrollment is down. When Brown graduated, 2,023 yards, 35 touchdowns and 210 points left. It's not a pretty picture.

However, two all-region picks return: defensive back Ryan Evans (5-10, 165) and down lineman Joe DiMarco (5-10, 220). Big Brad Selby (6-6, 280), hurt most of '95, should be ready to go. In spite of the losses, defense should again be a strength. Seniors Todd Christman (6-1, 175), Miles Harding (6-2, 185), Scott Moser (5-10, 190), Chris Chick (6-2, 215), Matt Barrie (5-11, 195), Jeremy Skalniak (6-0, 205) and Randy Berman (5-11, 230) should all start. Christman is a safety. All the rest are linemen or backers. Ryan Dobson (5-11, 165) will probably be the new quarterback.

It's not a pretty picture at **AGUA FRIA**, either. Mike Grossner, offensive coordinator at Glendale JC for six years, inherits a winless club. "We've got no place to go but up," says Grossner. Eighteen lettermen return, the most important being quarterback Matt Pina (5-10, 160), and running back Chris Coleman (5-8, 180), a transfer from Glendale Cactus. Pina passed for 1,790 yards and 10 TDs. Isaac Ruston (5-9, 160) and Brad Holmes (6-1, 185, jr) round out a solid backfield. Both can play in the secondary. Mike Segovia (5-10, 220) is a two-way guard. Brian Schafer (5-10, 200) leads at linebacker. Speedy Keith Schuttler (6-1, 185, 4.6) is a promising sophomore receiver.

4A ARROWHEAD REGION

1. Glendale Cactus (9-3)
2. Tolleson Westview (5-5)
3. Glendale Ironwood (12-2)
4. Phoenix Goldwater (4-6)
5. Lake Havasu (3-7)
6. Mountain Ridge

It's a new look at **CACTUS**, where passing the ball has become a work of art. This year look for the Cobras to grind it out. And who wouldn't, with the size of the linemen at this Glendale school.

Coach Larry Fetkenhier, 107-37-2 in the profession, returns two of the Valley's premier players, center Chris Hahn (6-3, 260) and down lineman David Henson (6-5, 280). Hahn and teammates Mark Strayhorn (6-1, 231) and John Arnold (6-0, 231), all-league picks, form the region's best front wall. Another all-league selection, linebacker Kyle Kosier (6-5, 218), is a defensive captain.

It's hard to replace an all-state quarterback, a good secondary and a solid kicking game, but you have to start somewhere. The coaches like the looks of Todd Kelley (6-2, 224), Brandon Guida (6-0, 258), Alan Sinag (6-2, 238), Doug Werner (6-5, 238) and Jason Lyons (5-10, 208), all linemen. Backs D.J. Hollingsworth (5-9, 180, 4.4) and Brian Garcia (5-9, 150, 4.6) are two of the region's quicker players. Big Chris Cutting (6-1, 218) is a promising junior fullback.

At **WESTVIEW**, the Knights get bigger and better. Last fall's 5-5 finish could have easily been 7-3. Six starters return, including one of the regions' best all-round athletes, pass catcher Dana White (6-0, 175), an all-state receiver. Defensive back Josh Pearson (6-1, 180), halfback Lemar Chambliss (6-1, 195), kicker Aaron Moore (6-0, 190), and linemen Jason Padget (6-3, 215) and Ryan Williams (5-10, 230) earned all-league votes. Altogether, 21 underclassmen dotted the Knights' roster, including four sophomores: QB Eric Jackson, halfback Matt Hamblin, and ends Philip Paige and Sylvester Johnson.

For **IRONWOOD**, the dream season lasted 14 weeks, ending with a loss to Scottsdale Saguaro in the 4A finals at Arizona State. The Eagles' 56-man roster included 33 underclassmen, plenty for new coach Chuck Esquivel to build on. Two, quarterback Mark Simmons (5-10, 160) and guard Josh Peper (5-11, 215), were sophomores. Three Eagles earned post season recognition. Linebacker Daniel Lopez (5-11, 190) may be the best at that position in the Arrowhead. Quarterback Jack Erb (6-0, 160) is a leader. Two-way back Eric Bell (6-0, 185) is a tough runner. Size is a big factor. Ironwood returns one dozen 200-pounders, including 250-pound tackle Donald O'Connell. The 12-2 finish was the school's best. Coach Mark Matheson stepped down to pursue administration work. Esquivel was the school's line coach and head track coach.

Over at **GOLDWATER**, the Bulldogs batted below .500, finishing their third

season in 4A ball with a 4-6 record. Running back Damian Perkins (5-10, 170) and two-way tackle Justin Long (6-3, 220) earned all-region recognition. Back Celan Curtis (5-11, 180) did two years ago. Size is obvious, with Jarrod Watson (6-3, 230), Tom Jolly (6-3, 250) and Danny Cox (6-2, 240) in the lineup. Twenty underclassmen got valuable playing time, including two promising sophomores, wideout Jonathan Chesnik (6-0, 165) and guard J.D. Hutchinson (6-2, 206).

At LAKE HAVASU, football nights in 4A competition might be numbered. A population boom might kick the Knights up a class. That's a scary thought. Last year's squad finished 3-7 - next-to-last in the region - one slot above Goldwater. But that unit was young. The coaching staff welcomes 19 letter winners, including wideout/cornerback Ryan Huhnerkoch (5-10, 165), junior tight end/linebacker Jason Thuneman (5-11, 172) and junior nose tackle Kevin Jacobs (6-0, 235), three quality players. Last year two-way end Jason Sayre (6-1, 192) played as a freshman.

4A DESERT SKY REGION

1. Phoenix Washington (5-5)
2. Phoenix Greenway (10-2)
3. Kingman (7-4)
4. Phoenix Cortez (4-6)
5. Moon Valley (1-9)
6. Glendale Independence (5-5)

This race might not even be close. If the injury bug takes a hike, and **WASHINGTON** cranks up its offense, Ram fans can buy playoff tickets early. With A.J. Brown in the lineup, Washington has one of the best all-round players in the city. The 6-1, 175-pound senior is one of the best football/basketball players around. He averaged 24.6 yards per catch, hauling in 27 passes for 665 yards and four touchdowns. The go-to-guy carried the ball 56 times from scrimmage for 472 yards (8.4) and four more scores. Quarterback James McKnight (5-11, 170) is the key, completing 44% of his passes for 710 yards. Watch those stats shoot up. Teams can't double cover Brown, either. Wideout Derek Pearson (5-10, 160, 4.5) averaged 16.0 yards a catch. Flanker Brandon Southerland (5-9, 165, 4.5) averaged 14.3 yards. There's no lack of skill players. Halfback Manuel Golden (5-11, 175, 4.6) averaged 5.9 yards per carry. Junior Garric Simmons (6-1, 195, 4.6) averaged 8.1 and scored twice. But the line must hold up. Will Elfritz (5-11,

ALL-TIME ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL VICTORIES



Wins	School	Years
549	.....Mesa.....	1920-95
486	.....Tucson.....	1912-95
451	.....Safford.....	1925-95
418	.....Winslow.....	1915-95
417	.....Phoenix St. Mary's.....	1938-95
401	.....Round Valley.....	1921-95
392	.....Gilbert.....	1923-95
389	.....Douglas.....	1906-95
377	.....Flagstaff.....	1923-95
375	.....Snowflake.....	1929-95
362	.....Miami.....	1923-95
353	.....Phoenix Union.....	1913-81
350	.....Tempe.....	1924-95
350	.....Tucson Amphi.....	1939-95
342	.....Peoria.....	1933-95
323	.....Globe.....	1924-95

180), Scott McCluskey (5-11, 185), Bobby Van Allen (6-0, 205) and Elliott Marks (6-1, 185, jr) are not big, but solid. Deep backs John Martinez (5-9, 150), Kenny Liggins (5-10, 175) and Jimmy Simms (6-0, 175) join Brown and McKnight to give Washington a strong secondary. "We are going to have to stop people to be a contender," warns head coach Steve Chisman. "Our defense will be young."

At **GREENWAY**, the Demons' aerial circus, known as the pass-and-catch combo of Mark Brooks to Damian Segovia, has moved on to the college ranks. With them went 2,768 yards of real estate. That will be hard to replace. Coach Mike Brown moves in from Thunderbird after 39 seniors graduated. Only four starters return, including two-way tackle Rich Fagan (6-2, 220), a promising junior. Three-year player Tim Pompa (6-4, 215) starts at tight end and linebacker, along with Jeff Parker (6-1, 210), who also shows up at running back. Two-way back Jared Cleckner (6-1, 180)

is a good one. An unbeaten (8-0) junior varsity rang a warning bell. From 0-10 in '93 to 10-2 last fall, Greenway's season ended with a 35-29 loss to Peoria.

Up north, **KINGMAN** might be playing its last season at the 4A level. The Bulldogs, coached by Ray Smith, are almost over the limit. Last year's club went 7-4 and played one playoff game. Top 'Dog in camp is quarterback/safety Trevor Mote (6-0, 180), one of the region's best athletes. In seven games he passed for 1,050 yards, ran for 571, and made 53 tackles.

Over 20 lettermen return at **MOON VALLEY**, which hired John Burke to get the Rockets back on track. Burke replaces Mel Harms, who was 27-36 in six years. Experience is the name of the game, starting with the linebacker duo of Brian Cherry (5-11, 195) and Tony Lucchesi (5-8, 160), small but good hitters. Cherry, along with deep back Jarrod Moore (5-8, 170) earned all-region acclaim. Jacob Cook (6-0, 215), Brad Gosnell (5-10, 240) and junior Dale Rebenstein (5-11, 200) started on the line. Little Julio Gutierrez (5-5, 150) and junior Chasda Martin (5-11, 180) are two-way backs.

"Injuries caused us to have a losing season," claims Rob Roberson at **CORTEZ**. "If our line stays healthy this year, we'll be a contender." Best player in the trench is giant tackle Joe Walker, a 6-3, 322-pounder. Joe Maese (6-2, 241) isn't bad either. Chris Gammage (6-3, 183) is an experienced quarterback. Defensively, he joins Anthony Fears (5-10, 191) at the Colts' safety positions. Both run 40 yards in 4.6 seconds.

Early, the going might be rough for new coach Bill House at **INDEPENDENCE**. Graduation basically cleaned out a 5-5 slate. Only 13 regulars return. Two starters, junior defensive lineman John Clanton (6-2, 220) and tight end Robert Cotton (6-0, 185) won all-league recognition. At Class 1A Patagonia, House compiled an 87-12-1 record, a .879 winning percentage. Four of his teams played in the state finals.

4A SKYLINE REGION

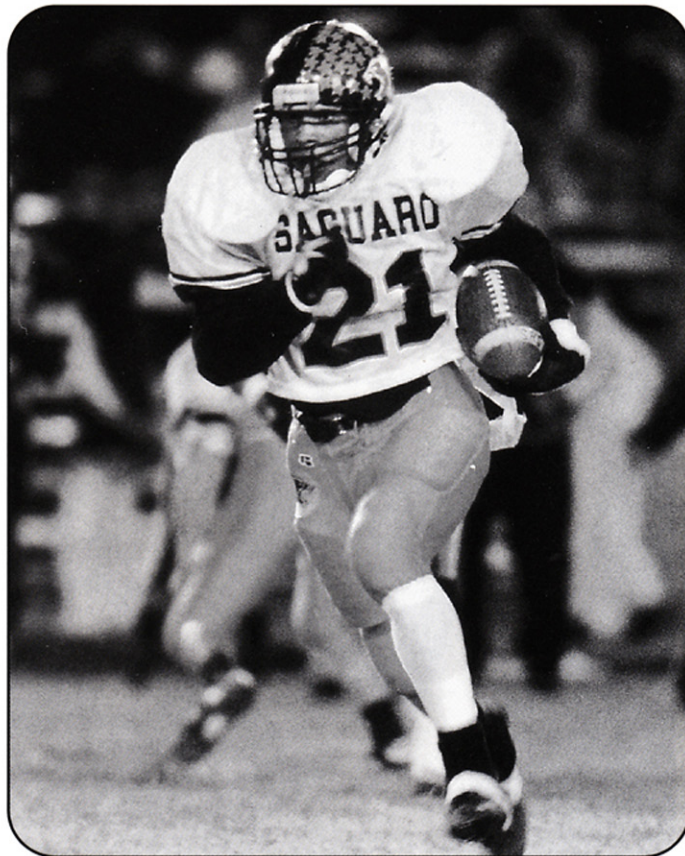
1. Paradise Valley (6-4)
2. Glendale Apollo (7-4)
3. Glendale (4-6)
4. Prescott (9-2)
5. Phoenix Thunderbird (5-5)
6. Sunnyslope (0-10)

They're optimistic at **PARADISE VALLEY**, where Bob Lambie returns 21 regulars from a 6-4 club which missed the

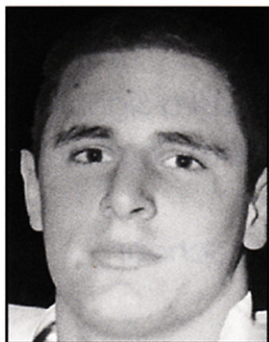
Scottsdale Quarterback Club

SALUTES THE SCOTTSDALE CITY PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

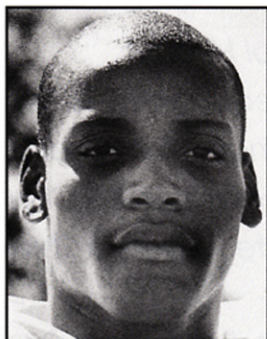
1995 ... Mike Brown, Saguaro, RB/DB
 1994 ... John Clayton, Horizon, RB
 1993 ... Randy Hakes, Arcadia, TE/LB
 1992 ... Rod Bair, Coronado, FB
 1991 ... Paul Fichera, Coronado, RB
 1990 ... Justin Olson, Horizon, RB
 ... Paul Fichiera, Coronado, RB (jr)
 1989 ... Kevin McLemore, Coronado, RB/LB
 1988 ... Andy Davis, Saguaro, RB
 1987 ... Tony Werstler, Saguaro, QB
 ... Neil Begalman, Saguaro, LB
 1986 ... John Boyer, Coronado, FB/LB
 1985 ... Charles Sanfilippo, Chaparral, RB
 1984 ... Steve Rosholt, Arcadia, RB
 1983 ... Dave Schilling, Coronado, RB
 1982 ... Lee Bishop, Chaparral, RB
 ... Tim McInnis, Coronado, TE
 1981 ... Frank Rudolph, Coronado, DE
 1980 ... Randy Hayes, Scottsdale, WR
 1979 ... Jeff Harper, Chaparral, RB
 1978 ... Kevin Smith, Saguaro, QB (jr)
 1977 ... Joey Lumpkin, Scottsdale, FB/LB
 1976 ... Greg Brady, Coronado, QB
 1975 ... Bob Pitre, Arcadia, QB
 1974 ... Rick McClelland, Saguaro, FB/LB
 1973 ... Rob Wilson, Coronado, QB/DB
 1972 ... Keith Sobraski, Coronado, DT
 1971 ... Gil Gillenwater, Arcadia, RB
 1970 ... Jim Cedarstrom, Saguaro, DE



Mike Brown scored 35 touchdowns, rushed for 2,023 yards, and signed with Nebraska.



Dana Woudenberg
Arcadia



Kevin McLemore
Coronado

1969 ... Wayne Mattingly, Saguaro, FB
 1968 ... Marty Stajduhar, Coronado, WR
 1967 ... Marty Shuford, Saguaro, RB/P
 1966 ... Bill Dipley, Arcadia, DB
 1965 ... Bill Dipley, Arcadia, WR (jr)
 1964 ... Don Burger, Scottsdale, HB
 1963 ... Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia, FB/LB
 1962 ... Everett "Moose" Rollins, Arcadia, HB

For membership information
 Call Dave Berman at (602) 949-6666
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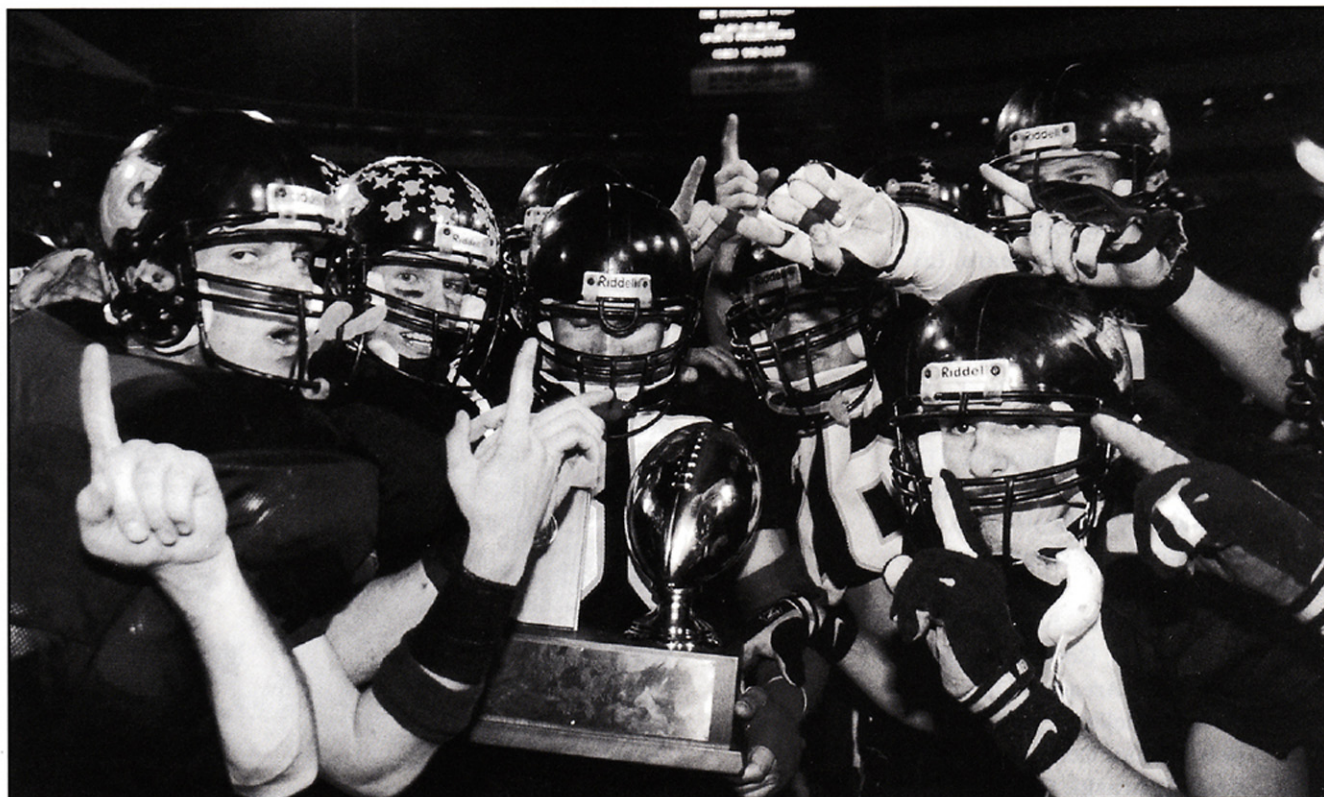
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- ❑ *Ryan Smith, Bob Horbaczewski, Jon Troutman, Steve Hannant, Mike Lindsley, Gavin Engle & Mike Brown First-Team Scottsdale All-City!*
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Bob Keller Athletic Director/Walt Sword Head Coach

playoffs by one spot. Three first team all-league players return: tackle Troy Crawford (6-3, 200), nose guard Vince Mosca (6-3, 230, jr) and safety Todd Lowder (5-8, 148). Junior Steve Mullins (6-4, 195) is the Trojans' quarterback. He's surrounded by good, young skill players, like split end Mike Bakunowski (5-11, 170) and wingback Ryan Olson (5-11, 185). Halfback Francis Turner (5-10, 175), just a sophomore, has a promising future. So do classmates Adam Marazzo (6-1, 185), a tight end/linebacker, and fullback Ryan Abel (5-11, 180). Senior Jason Mattox (6-0, 175) starts at guard, while Casey Meyer (6-0, 170) plays on the corner and backs up Mullins at quarterback.

Region champion **APOLLO** played great offense, but the Hawks' defense was porous, proved so in a 49-7 playoff loss to Tempe. Coach Gregg Parrish welcomes 15 regulars, mostly linemen, with skilled help from an 8-0 JV club. With Ryan Bakke (6-3, 250) in the lineup, Parrish has one of the better linemen in the league. Tight end Adam Hauer (6-4, 185) and two-way tackle Rob Walker (6-0, 230) can hold their own. Center Jared Amabile (6-2, 190) starts each play. Seniors Bryan Rojo (5-8, 150), Chris Babineau (5-11, 170) and Chris

Nakagawa (5-7, 150) are two-way skill players.

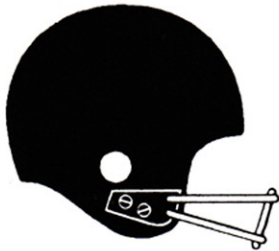
At **GLENDALE**, the Cardinals are committed to being a force in the Skyline Region, where Kelley Moore returns 10 regulars from a 3-7 team. Two seniors, quarterback Justin True (5-10, 170) and halfback Anthony Stevens (5-11, 180), are key performers - on both sides of the ball. True also plays linebacker, Stevens safety. Junior Jerome Lewis (6-1, 230) could be one of the best linemen in the league. Jason Hetman (6-1, 230), Chad Meyers (6-2, 215) and Ben Sailer (5-9, 230) join Lewis to give the Cardinals a solid forward wall. Little C.J. Young (5-9, 165) starts in the secondary and backs up True at quarterback.

The head coach is the biggest loss at region power **PRESCOTT**, where veteran Bill Gahn resigned to take the job at Sunrise Mountain, newest school in the Peoria District. Only one starter returns, defensive back Dan Dombey (6-1, 170), also the Badgers' kicker. The cupboard isn't completely bare. Twenty lettermen return and the junior varsity lost only once.

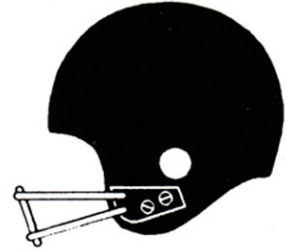
Gary Mauldin takes over at **THUNDERBIRD**, replacing Mike Brown, who moved to Greenway. The Chiefs batted .500 and just missed the playoffs. Several

years ago Mauldin led Show Low into the 3A finals. Two years ago he coached at Scottsdale Chaparral. Fullback/linebacker Zeke Hodan (6-2, 220) is a key player. Ditto for back Jim Antonini (5-9, 160), tackle Art Horoszowski (6-2, 230) and junior signal caller Chad Womack (5-9, 155), also a safety. Juniors like D.J. Warner (5-6, 150), a quick little cornerback, and down linemen Dominick Tumacder (5-9, 209) and Charlie Bays (6-1, 210) played as sophomores.

From a 7-4 playoff squad to a winless season, surprising **SUNNYSLOPE** took a beating. "It was a rebuilding, frustrating year," says head coach Dallas Hickman. "Hopefully, we will be better and more competitive." Depth is a problem. The junior varsity was 0-8. Seniors like quarterback Mike Laird (6-1, 170), receiver Matt Nixon (6-2, 190) and safety Landen Woodward (6-1, 170), a three-year starter, must step forward. With only 13 regulars back, lots of players will go both ways. Laird joins Woodward in the secondary, while Nixon is a good linebacker. Look for linebacker Fred Robertson (6-1, 200) and two-way tackle Jason Cooper (6-2, 205) to help out. Last fall, the Vikings averaged only one touchdown per game, but gave up an average of 34.0 points every Friday night.



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CENTRAL ARIZONA FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION



SMALL SCHOOL PREVIEW

Don't kick to this guy, Fountain Hills running back Dan Martinson, returning a kickoff against Cactus Shadows. He scored five times on kickoffs, averaging 45.5 yards per return!

Fountain Hills Boom To 3A West

CLASS 3A

Almost overnight, **FOUNTAIN HILLS** became a contender in 3A competition. Five years ago the school didn't exist. Before you know it, the Falcons might be sailing in 4A competition. The area is really growing. Coach Jim Fairfield returns 14 key players from a 6-4 squad which dropped an early playoff game to Snowflake, 14-0. "We're not that far away," says Fairfield. "The outlook is good. We have all but one returning line-man back, and a good group of skill players. Plus our underclassmen are winning."

Best skill player is Dan Martinson (5-8, 155, 4.6), kick returner deluxe. Last year he tied a state record with five scores on kickoff returns, averaging 45.5 yards per runback. Martinson, point guard on the basketball team, scored 12 TDs overall. He starts in the Falcons' secondary. Two-way end Pat Robinson (6-5, 220, 4.9), a good pass catcher, is another high profile Falcon. A solid, experienced line is the key, starting with center Robert Zeigler

(5-10, 220), first Falcon to touch the ball. He's flanked by seniors Jared Alexander (6-6, 275) and Jake Fornex (6-2, 245), big boys by any standard. The junior class features flanker/deep back Ryan Neis (5-10, 160), and fullback/linebacker Matt Butcher (6-0, 200), both potential stand-outs.

There's other Flacons on the horizon, over at **CACTUS SHADOWS**, in Cave Creek. Coach Gerry LaBelle's near-perfect crew finished 9-1 after a 15-10 loss to Winslow in the playoff's first round. The 3A West champs return 13 holdovers, and most saw action. Up front the Falcons are set, with seniors Bob Border (6-2, 218), Pat Staar (6-5, 214), Jim Cullen (6-0, 190) and James Chick (6-3, 225) in the lineup. Running back Mike Hurst (5-9, 177) runs 40 yards in 4.5 seconds. Last spring, split end Patrick Morningstar (5-10, 170) ran 200 meters in 22.7 seconds. He joins Kaolin Cummins (5-9, 154) in the secondary to give the Falcons two good cover guys. Juniors Luke Kautzman and Brent Grable,

along with soph Joe Faraj, will compete at quarterback. Faraj was the starter on last year's 7-0 frosh squad.

When it comes to speed and skill, the **BOYS RANCH** is tops. Last year's young club finished 9-4 after falling to Blue Ridge in the 3A finals. The Spartans beat Safford in a classic semifinal contest, 28-27 in overtime. Coach Richard Gray returns 11 regulars, with size and speed to burn. State sprint champ Tylon Law (5-11, 205, 4.5) scoots on a track (10.9, 21.9). All-state defensive end/linebacker Amenweah Yuoh (6-3, 203) was a member of the school's sprint relay teams, and linebacker Mike Miller (6-3, 215) was the state 3A shot put champion. Yuoh ran 400 meters in 50.0 seconds. Center Cody Jefferies (5-11, 225) and tackle Reggie Miles (6-1, 240) give Law and full-back Jovan Davis (6-0, 200) solid blocking. Eddie Williams (5-10, 160), a good defensive back, might be the Spartans' quarterback.

DYSART snuck into the playoffs with only four seniors in the lineup, compiling

a 5-4 regular season, then dropping a playoff opener to Safford, 49-6. With 21 returning lettermen the Demons should be tough. Coach Bryan Munoz returns eight starters on defense, including all-league linebacker Brett Marty (6-3, 242) and nose guard Josh Carbajal (6-0, 292). Linebacker Armando Trujillo (5-10, 185), linemen Adam Resendes (6-1, 217) and Cory Hunt (6-3, 240), along with deep back Joe Brumley (6-2, 207) form the nucleus of a stout defense. Junior Robert Guerrero (5-11, 210) is a promising linebacker.

Last year's small senior class resulted in a 1-8 outing at **WICKENBURG**, the Wranglers' first taste in the 3A West. All-state linebacker Matt Greene (6-0, 200) is the key player. Also a fullback, Greene recorded 40 unassisted tackles, three sacks and one interception. Two-way end Seth Magden (6-3, 190) and guard/linebacker Noel Smart (5-10, 175) make for a good supporting cast. Eleven sophomores won varsity letters, including Joe Rose, Nate Brink, Greg Carrillo, Ricardo Teran, Don Durham, Jake McCardle, Tim Exley, Stocker Simpson, T.J. Lelacher, Edgar James and George Wilkins. An 8-1 JV squad should help improve the picture.

Like Wickenburg, **BUCKEYE** lasted only one playoff game. Blue Ridge thumped the Hawks, sending them home with a 5-5 finish. The future resides in the junior class, where eight underclassmen saw action as sophomores: Jarrett Guy, Louie Valdez, J. R. Henry, Ian Accomazzo, Jon Benson, Travis Yuen, Tommy Locklar and Sam Uptegrove. Senior tackle Josh Blackson (6-2, 250) looks like the biggest Hawk in camp.

CLASS 2A

To say that **PHOENIX CHRISTIAN** is on a roll is an understatement. Last year's 2A West champs went 10-1 with only three seniors in the program. Pima rained on their parade, 25-18 in overtime. The junior varsity went 8-1. Tailback Micah Barton (5-11, 175, 4.6) rushed for 1,688 yards and scored 14 touchdowns. At the 2A state track meet he finished second in the 100 and 200-meter dashes. Linebacker Brandon Seay (5-11, 175) helped in 131 tackles. Guard Adam Kerber (5-10, 170) recorded nine sacks. Matt Grantham (6-2, 258) is a two-way starter. Quarterback Wil Neese (6-0, 170) recorded 1,240 yards and 17 TDs. Wideout Nathan Main (5-10, 170) caught

12 passes. Fullback Bryan Dodge (6-0, 220) is a three-year starter. Chris Guess (6-2, 185) roams the secondary. Junior Josh Lane (5-11, 190) booted nine field goals. He and Barton give the Cougars the best kicking game in the league. In four years at PC, head coach Keith Brown has won 78% of his games.

It was a decent season at **VALLEY CHRISTIAN**, considering the Trojans lost nine starters with season ending injuries. "We will be improved," claims Bernon Benson, 169-131-6 in the prep ranks. "We have good speed but not much size." Excluding center Josh Haisten (6-6, 260), of course. Tackle Brad Yarbrough (6-4, 220) isn't too small, either. All-league deep back Andy Reiss (5-10, 150) made 47 solo tackles and intercepted four passes. Also the Trojans' quarterback, he passed for 609 yards.

All-league pick Dan Reynolds (6-0, 165) rushed for 483 yards and caught 29 passes for 449 yards; five scores. Versatile Jason Edgmond (6-1, 175) passed for 363 yards, made 38 solo tackles and picked off two passes. Defensive ends Brent West (5-10, 150) and Spud Duffey (5-11, 165) run well. Soph wideout Marshall Tague (6-0, 150) ran 400 meters in 52.4 seconds as a freshman.

Coach Joe Timpani guided **SETON CATHOLIC** into the playoffs for the third time in the school's history. The Sentinels (9-2) reached the Final Four, losing only to state finalist Kearny Ray and Thatcher. Timpani returns a veteran line, led by seniors Aaron Mickle (5-11, 200), Tony Mahlmeister (6-1, 195) and Ryan Gibney (5-10, 215). Matt Kochis (6-0, 175) is a capable linebacker. Senior Geoff Meister (6-1, 170), and juniors Mike Ballinger (6-1, 190) and Raja Audi (5-10, 180) are two-way skill players; receivers and cornerbacks.

Much traveled Gary Thompson takes over at **BOURGADE CATHOLIC**, where 12 regulars from a 4-5 squad return. The junior varsity won only once. Underclassmen need to develop quick. Linebacker Benji Martinez (5-8, 195) and deep back Sam Pullano (6-1, 167) show senior leadership. Junior backer Josue Montero (5-11, 227) has promise. Soph Andrew May (6-3, 242) is a two-way tackle. Juniors Carlos Saucedo and Stratton Schultz will battle for the QB position.

At **GILA BEND**, the Gila Monsters battled through a 5-4 regular season, then dropped a first round playoff game to Seton. Coach Terry Nodlinski has QB Dennis Jordan (6-0, 180) to run his Pro-I

offense, plus fullback Randy Gonzalez (5-10, 180), one of the region's best two-way players. He's a good linebacker. So is Iggy Gonzalez (5-10, 175), and the two join Jordan to give the Monsters' a tough linebacking corps. Jason Burbage (6-1, 180) and junior Kelly Martin (6-1, 205) are two-way linemen. Eric Davis (5-10, 170) and Brandon Espinoza (5-9, 160) form a good receiving corps.

QUEEN CREEK suffered through a winless season, so seniors like Greg Leach (6-3, 275), Frank Metzger (6-0, 195), Tydon Pace (5-10, 170) and Brian Hindmarch (5-10, 250), Bulldog starters, look for improvement. Last year the 'Dogs gave up 329 points in nine games.

EIGHT-MAN

It was an exciting season at **NORTHWEST COMMUNITY**, where the Crusaders reached the semifinals, losing to state champ Fredonia, 46-30. Coach Charlie Bell looks to have a banner year, with a solid nucleus returning, including gifted sophomore QB Jake Wright. The 5-11, 160-pound signal caller might be one of the best in the 1A West.

Backs Kevin Treat (5-10, 170), Ryan Kittle (6-2, 210) and Jon Thompson (5-11, 160) join Wright to give NWCC a good arsenal. Kittle and Thompson are juniors. Senior Steve Thomas (5-9, 180) is the Crusaders' best interior lineman. Little Mike Harper (5-7, 130) is a good receiver.

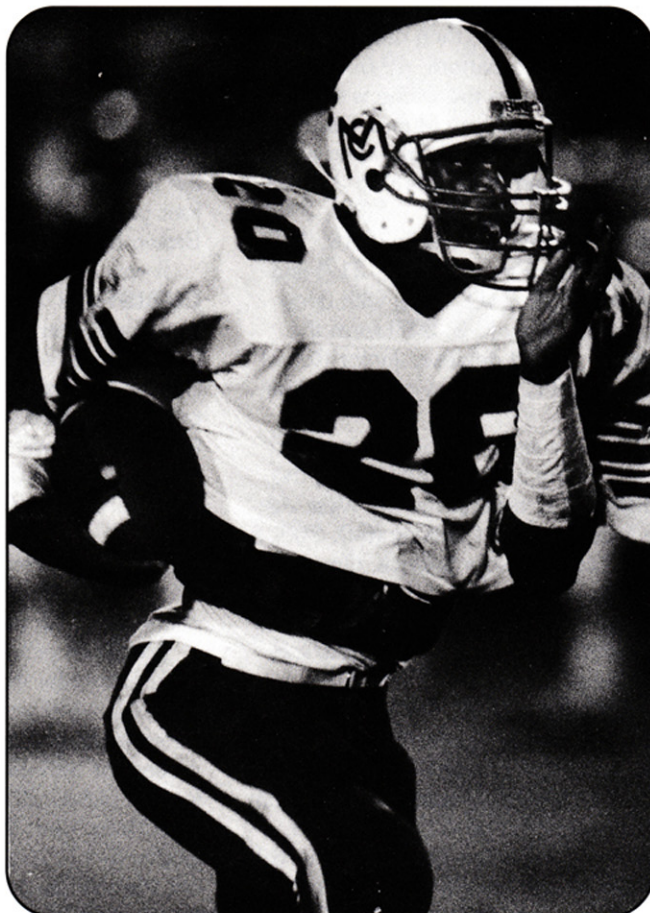
The Crusaders open Sept. 7 at **SCOTTSDALE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**, the club they eliminated in the first round of the playoffs, 38-36. The Eagles return 11 regulars - half the roster - from a 6-3 squad which won the 1A Central. Junior Adam Litt (5-10, 180), a two-way skill player, has playoff experience. Tackle Josh Libby (6-1, 230) is the biggest Eagle in camp. Three freshmen, end Josh Glennie (5-11, 180), and guards Justin Whittenton (5-7, 185) and Scott Davenport (5-10, 160) saw action.

ARIZONA LUTHERAN was another 6-3 playoff club. The Coyotes, coached by Doug Lange, were bombed in the playoffs, 58-13 by Orme School. However, 75% of the roster returns, including veteran players Angel Thompson, Andy Miller, David Brandt, Nathan Berg and junior Cameron Hulbert, a 200-pound fullback/linebacker. Thompson, a two-way tackle, is the biggest Coyote at 6-2, 240.



Salutes the Phoenix Metro Players of the Year

1995 .. Mike Brown, Saguaro, RB/DB
 1994 .. Tavon Cooper, Peoria, RB/KR
 1993 .. Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, RB/DB
 1992 .. Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, RB
 1991 .. Sam Salts, St. Mary's, WB/DB/K
 1990 .. Grady Benton, Mesa, QB
 1989 .. Brian Drew, McClintock, RB/RS
 1988 .. Mike Salmon, Greenway, WB/DB/K
 1987 .. Kevin Galbreath, Maryvale, RB
 1986 .. Nathan LaDuke, Alhambra, QB/DB
 1985 .. Cleveland Colter, McClintock, RB/DB
 1984 .. Steve Belles, St. Mary's, QB
 1983 .. Anthony Parker, McClintock, RB/DB
 1982 .. Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, RB
 1981 .. Frank Rudolph, Coronado, DE
 1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe, LB
 1979 .. Todd Shell, Mountain View, LB
 1978 .. Rory Barnett, Trevor Browne, RB (jr)
 1977 .. Mike Pagel, Washington, QB
 1976 .. Greg Brady, Coronado, QB
 1975 .. Brian Felix, Phoenix Union, RB/DB
 1974 .. David Mitchell, St. Mary's (jr)
 1973 .. Rob Wilson, Coronado, QB/DB
 1972 .. Keith Sobraski, Coronado, DT
 1971 .. Fred Mortensen, Tempe, QB
 1970 .. Bob Breunig, Alhambra, FB/LB
 1969 .. Danny White, Westwood, QB
 1968 .. Bill Mannion, St. Mary's, QB
 1967 .. Tim Smith, St. Mary's, FB
 1966 .. Bob Soza, Westwood, TB
 1965 .. Bill Dunning, Mesa, RB
 1964 .. Richard Griffin, Westwood, T
 1963 .. Earliest Nelson, South Mountain, RB



In 1985, McClintock's Cleveland Colter scored 25 touchdowns and 213 points (Gazette photo).

1962 .. Everett Rollins, Arcadia, RB
 1961 .. Andy Livingston, Mesa, RB
 1960 .. Ted Lawrence, South Mountain, G
 1959 .. Bob Olson, South Mountain, RB
 1958 .. Lewis Albright, Scottsdale, RB
 1957 .. Eddie Wilson, Chandler, QB
 1956 .. Warren Livingston, Mesa, RB
 1955 .. George Greathouse, Phoenix Union, RB
 1954 .. George Greathouse, Phoenix Union, RB
 1953 .. Kenny Aycock, North, RB
 1952 .. Jack Stovall, St. Mary's, E
 1951 .. Bob Black, Phoenix Union, E
 1950 .. Don Beasley, Mesa, FB
 1949 .. Danny Seivert, St. Mary's, RB
 1948 .. Gene Brown, Phoenix Union, FB
 1947 .. Dan Russell, Mesa, QB
 1946 .. Whizzer White, Mesa, RB
 1945 .. Whizzer White, Mesa, RB (jr)
 1944 .. Bill Yeoman, Glendale, C

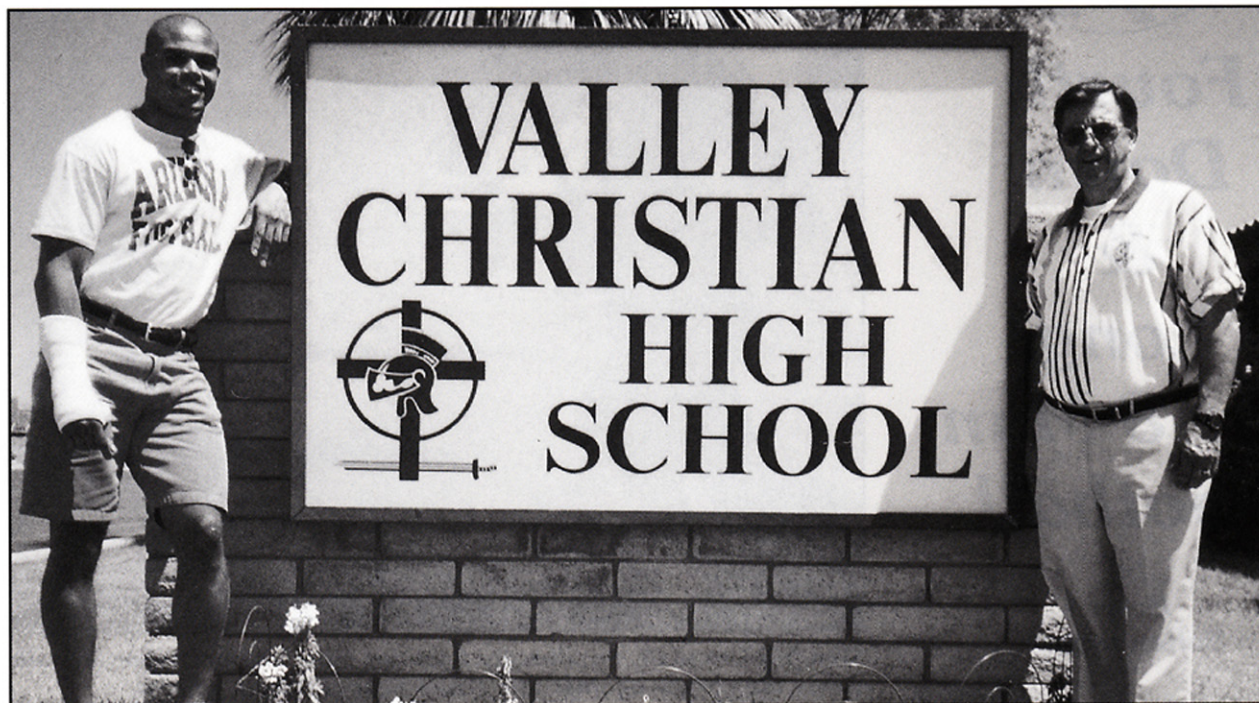
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Girls Volleyball

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Boys Track;
'89 & '91 Girls Track
1992 Volleyball

REGION CHAMPS
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'91, '92, '93, '94 '96 Girls Track
'91, '92, '93, '94, '95 Boys Track
'93, '94 Girls Basketball
'93, '94 Football

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Fourth Down & Long For 8-Man Football

by
**Barry
Sollenberger**



Wendall Crandell, an all-state back for state champ Heber Mogollon, turns the corner against The Orme School (Worth photo).

For more than three decades, Mont Griffiths has seen it all. From 6-man football - that wild, free-scoring affair with scores resembling basketball games - to the 8-man game he coaches today.

One thing Griffiths and his Fredonia football teams have seen a lot of is the Grand Canyon State. More so, probably, than any coach in Arizona history.

You see, since 1961, Griffiths has coached in Arizona's smallest football class, originally called Class C. For six years, 1961 to 1966, he coached the infamous 6-man game, founded in 1934 by a high school coach in Nebraska. Then, in 1967, the state and most of the nation switched to the 8-man game.

"Eight-man ball bears a much closer resemblance to 11-man football," wrote Dave Hicks in *The Arizona Republic*. "It is not dominated by one player. And, for the most part, the placing of four additional players on the field helps reduce the adding-machine scores. Eight-man ball appears to have many things in its favor."

But that was in 1967. Today, 8-man ball has very little in its favor. The game may be on the verge of becoming extinct.

It's truly fourth-down-and-long for the sport. For many reasons.

There are 113,956 square miles in Arizona, making it the sixth largest state in the nation. Coaches like Griffiths, Joseph City's Jeff Crothers, Patagonia's Bill House, or any Class 1A mentor will testify to that.

Unlike those who coach in the larger schools, these guys drive the buses. Buses which get lots of use.

"If there's 113,000 square miles in this state I've seen it," said Griffiths recently. "Coaches from the big cities, they don't know what a road trip is. They should coach in our league for a while."

For more than three decades, Griffiths has logged more miles and won more games than any Arizona coach in the 8-man profession. Since 1961, he has won 143 games, lost 84 and tied four. He skipped five years. Ten of his club's have played in the state finals - four have won state championships.

For the past 10 years, Steve House has coached the most successful 8-man program in Southern Arizona, winning 87% of his games and three state titles, including a 27-game win streak between 1987-89.

"The sport may be near its end," says House, who has left Patagonia to take the

head job at Glendale Independence.

"Today, half the 1A schools in our part of the state don't field teams anymore. The A.I.A. says that's not enough.

"Last year we won our league and hosted Fredonia in the first round," he adds. "I once told Griffiths that we'd be glad to meet half-way if we ever played, like in Phoenix. He said no. He wanted to play us at his place if it happened. So he drove down here. You can't get any farther apart than Fredonia and Patagonia. They thumped us good. But when he got off the bus he said, 'Hey, we should have met in Phoenix.'"

As the crow flies, it's 390 miles from Fredonia - located south of the Utah border - to Patagonia - located northeast of Nogales. In 1991, the two schools played in one of the wildest 1A title games in Arizona history, a 36-36 tie.

That game featured two of the schools' legendary players, Fredonia's 6-0, 203-pound fullback Morgan Bingham, and Patagonia's 5-9, 140-pound miniback German Montiel. Nobody could stop anybody, and each team closed out the season with a 10-0-1 slate.

"Eight-man football is a real trip," concludes House. "It was fun to coach and

fun to watch. But today, it has too many things going against it."

"It may be over," says Steve Hudgens, athletic director at Clifton, whose Trojans play 8-man ball in the same region with Patagonia. "The state is outgrowing the sport. Towns like Elfrida, where Valley Union plays, and Fort Thomas, both 8-man schools, may soon move up to 2A. That's two more schools we'll lose. Not only is (traveling) cost a problem, finding teams to play, especially non-league games, is tough."

According to school officials, a recent unofficial vote was taken among Class 1A members regarding football problems, with the question asked, "If your school switched to 11-man ball, how many couldn't field a team?"

Only 10 hands went up.

The state's Class C small school football history is classical, with wild, free-for-all scoring games from the very first contest in 1938, when the schools played 6-man ball.

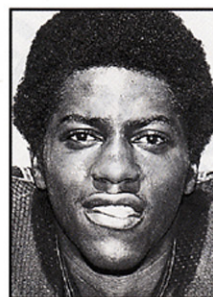
In a 1947 contest, Scottsdale blitzed

Gilbert 103-21, becoming the state's first 6-man school to crack the century barrier. One year later state champ Litchfield (today called Agua Fria High) skunked Peoria, 118-0. In a 1955 shootout, Benson's mighty Bobcats outscored St. David 92-48, setting a state scoring record for two teams - 140 points! That Benson squad, coached by Jack Wilson, finished 10-0 and won 24 games in a row.

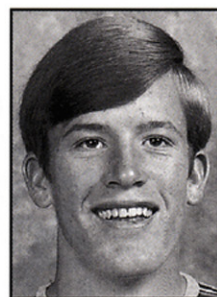
Ironically, it was Phoenix Union, with an enrollment of 3,800 students, which won the state's first official 6-man crown. The Coyotes, fielding a squad of players who didn't make the varsity, beat - of all people - Patagonia, 43-22, in the finals. The Lobos had less than 200 students on campus.

The game produced two 6-man All-Americans, sponsored annually by *Carnation*: Phoenix Union's Sonny Karnofsky, who later played for the Philadelphia Eagles, and Patagonia's Nick Johnson, later a standout pitcher for ASU and semi-pro teams throughout the state.

The champion Coyotes dominated the



**Carl Russell
McNary**



**Ric Lines
Pima**

state's first ever 6-man all-state squad, which included Karnofsky and fullback Bob Foutz from Phoenix, Patagonia's Johnson, Wickenburg halfback Bob Echeverria, Gilbert quarterback George Geiszl, halfback Angel Acuna from Tucson Deaf & Blind, Litchfield end Leon Graves and fullback Bill Thompson from Phoenix St. Mary's, which also fielded a 6-man team.

Then the Class C schools booted Phoenix Union out of the league.

From early pioneers like Karnofsky and Johnson, to the legendary Chuck Antoni who scored 95 touchdowns for the Salome Frogs, Arizona's small school ranks have produced their share of stars and thrills.

Between 1968-74, Pima, coached by the Ed Hubbard, Roger Smith and Dave Colborn, were the scourge of the Class C South, winning four state crowns in seven years, playing in five title games. Athletes like Gary Green, Rick Bryce, Eddie Norton, Max McEuen, Ron Bryce, Gary Dion, Jon Norton and Ric Lines, to name a few, put the Roughriders on the map.

But if any program exemplified the skill, success, and travel woes of this sport, it was McNary's Green Devils, coached by Pete Duca, in the Decade of the '60s. Duca and assistant Fred Roybal coached in the Class C North, winning three consecutive titles, going undefeated in the process.

McNary's treasure chest of talent included Jewell Russell, Kit Kitcheyan, Oscar Russell, George Herman, Robert Hardy, Willie Nash, Jerry Russell, Harding Stingley, and maybe the best of all, Carl Russell, who later played for Arizona State's undefeated 1975 team which beat Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl.

But in May of 1980, McNary High School closed.

The game they helped put on the Arizona sports map might be next.



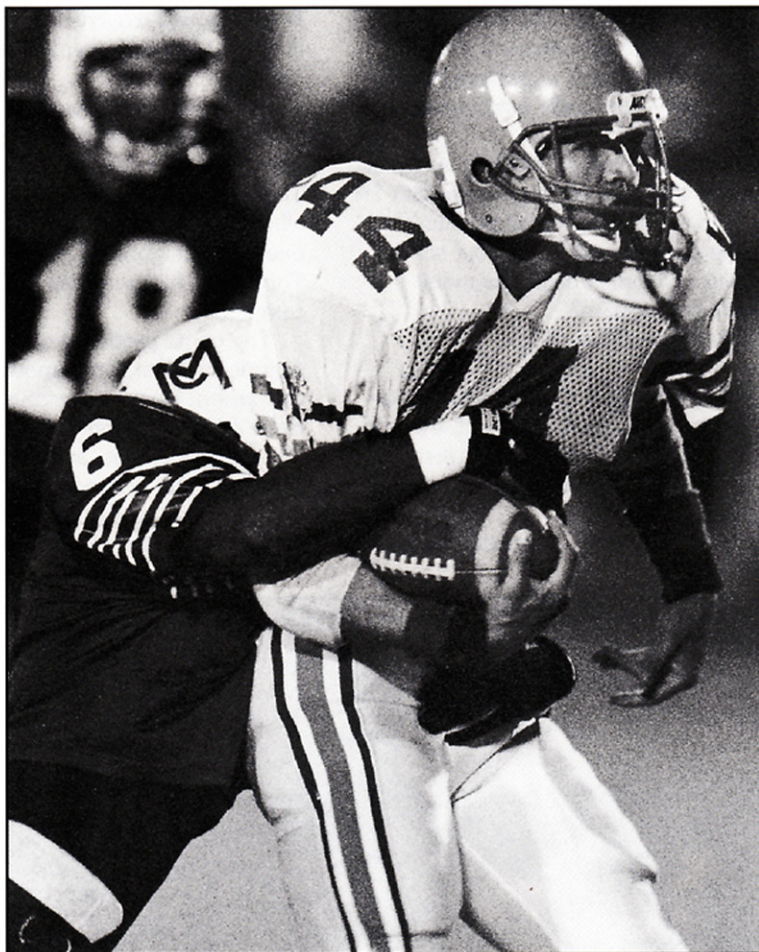
In the annals of 8-man football, no Arizona coach has won more games or logged more miles than Fredonia's Mont Griffiths (Blodgett photo).



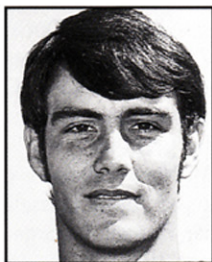
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We Salute the Mesa City Player of the Year

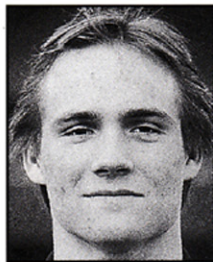
1995.....Tom Pace, Mesa, QB
1994.....Matt Griffith, Mesa, NG
1993.....Mikel Moreno, Mesa, QB
1992.....Brandon Thomas, Westwood, WR
1991.....Mike Cook, Mountain View, WR/DB/K
1990.....Grady Benton, Mesa, QB
1989.....Mark Jorgensen, Westwood, DB
1988.....Lance Smith, Mountain View, RB
1987.....Josh Arnold, Dobson, RB/DB
1986.....Quin Rodriguez, Dobson, PK
1985.....Bob Davis, Mountain View, LB
1984.....Pat Schabel, Westwood, WR
1983.....Paul Kasprzyk, Mountain View, RB
1982.....Keith Moody, Mountain View, T
1981.....Brian Denton, Mesa, T
1980.....Kevin Van Norman, Mountain View, DB
1979.....Todd Shell, Mountain View, LB
1978.....Keith Miller, Mountain View, WR
1977.....Ron Sowers, Mountain View, T
1976.....Fred Freeman, Westwood, T
1975.....Darrel LeSuer, Mesa, LB
1974.....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, RB
1973.....Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, WR
1972.....Don Woods, Mesa, WR
1971.....Greg Daly, Mesa, RB
1970.....Dick Harris, Westwood, WR
1969.....Danny White, Westwood, QB
1968.....Benny Alvarez, Mesa, RB
1967.....Ken Hatcher, Mesa, C



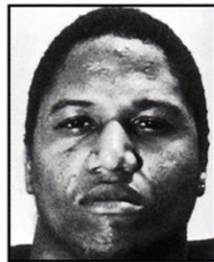
Westwood receiver Brandon Thomas (Mesa Tribune photo).



Danny White
Westwood



Paul Kasprzyk
Mountain View



Brian Denton
Mesa



Bob Davis
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ARENA FOOTBALL HITS SECOND DECADE

By
Nick Gandy

Entering its second decade, the Arena Football League fields its strongest lineup to date. It's an impressive starting 15 that took nine years to develop. And it's ready to make a run at the big time.

It surpassed the awkward expansion years, maintained through the fledgling years and strengthened through the formative years. The league is now prepared to grow tall and strong, like a child does through the teenage years.

The lineup boasts 15 teams playing a 14-game schedule. Two more teams are waiting in the wings for 1997. Total league attendance is expected to break the one million mark after a league-average of 11,293 last year.

"During the off-season we accomplished goals and our existing teams are becoming more talented with free-agent signings," said Commissioner Jim Drucker. "There are even two teams set for 1997 that have a year-and-a-half to prepare. That's how much the league has grown since its beginning in 1987."

State-of-the-Art arenas are the standard for the league's teams. In 10 of the league's 15 cities, the arenas



Hunkie Cooper has been a big hit.

have opened since 1989, and they come alive when the ball is kicked off. Arizona's America West Arena becomes a snake pit with constant rattling forcing players and fans to check and make sure there's not a Rattler sniping at their feet.

With teams in markets that account for 21 percent of the population of the United States, more than twice the number of football fans are exposed to the 50-Yard Indoor War than two years ago.

"The player personnel is much better," said Milwaukee head coach Michael Trigg, who quarterbacked two seasons of Arena Football and now enters his third as head coach. "The league has gained notoriety with more people knowing about the game. There are now much better players across the board while the game has stayed the same. The product is the best thing we have."

All around the league there's players who excite the crowds and light up the scoreboards. The Arizona Rattlers boast Hunkie Cooper, the league's third leading scorer last year and the Player of the Year in '93.

The league's consummate player, Orlando's Barry Wagner, shattered the league scoring record with 294 points and 48 touchdowns. He led the league in receiving yards with 1,150 on 81 receptions. He also scored 21 rushing touchdowns. On the defensive side of the ball, he led the league with 83 solo tackles and had three interceptions.

Speaking of defense, San Jose SaberCats' head coach Todd Shell (a product of Mesa Mountain View High School) proved that defense can win ball games in a league that showcases offense. The SaberCat defense led the league, allowing only 217 yards per game.



Arizona Cardinal Big Days



Running back Stump Mitchell is the Cardinals' all-time leader in combined yardage with 11,998 yards.

LONGEST RUN

- 83.....John David Crow vs Washington, 1958
- 82.....Elmer Angsman vs Detroit, 1949
- 80.....Paddy Driscoll vs Kansas City, 1925
- 79.....Ollie Matson vs Pittsburgh, 1956
- 79.....Ollie Matson vs Washington, 1954
- 78.....Charles Belden vs Frankford, 1930
- 76.....Ottis Anderson vs Dallas, 1979

RUSHING YARDS

- 203...John David Crow vs Pittsburgh, 1960
- 193...Ottis Anderson vs Dallas, 1979
- 182...Wayne Morris vs Minnesota, 1977

- 179...Stump Mitchell vs Philadelphia, 1985
- 177...Ottis Anderson vs Buffalo, 1981
- 176...Bill Triplett vs New York Giants, 1965
- 168...Ottis Anderson vs NY Giants, 1980
- 164...Ottis Anderson vs Minnesota, 1979
- 163...Ollie Matson vs Washington, 1954
- 162...Willis Crenshaw vs NY Giants, 1968

PASSING YARDS

- 468...Neil Lomax vs Washington, 1984
- 457...Neil Lomax vs San Diego, 1987
- 428...Charley Johnson vs Pittsburgh, 1963
- 390...Neil Lomax vs Philadelphia, 1986

- 388...Neil Lomax vs Dallas, 1984
- 386...Charley Johnson vs Philadelphia, 1962
- 385...Neil Lomax vs Green Bay, 1983
- 384...Neil Lomax vs Philadelphia, 1988
- 383...Charley Johnson vs Philadelphia, 1965
- 383...Chris Chandler vs Dallas, 1992
- 381...Timm Rosenbach vs NY Giants, 1990
- 374...Charley Johnson vs New Orleans, 1969
- 371...Charley Johnson vs Philadelphia, 1964

LONGEST PUNT RETURN

- 95.....Frank Bernardi vs Washington, 1956
- 88.....Phil Sarboe vs New York Giants, 1935
- 86.....Chuck Latourette vs New Orleans, 1968
- 86.....Johnny Roland vs Philadelphia, 1966
- 84.....Kenny Hall vs Pittsburgh, 1959
- 82.....Don Paul vs Philadelphia, 1950
- 78.....Ollie Matson vs Cleveland, 1955
- 77.....Lee Nelson vs Chicago, 1979
- 77.....Ollie Matson vs Chicago Bears, 1955
- 76.....Vai Sikahema vs NY Giants, 1987

RECEIVING YARDS

- 256...Sonny Randle vs NY Giants, 1962
- 212...Jackie Smith vs Pittsburgh, 1963
- 198...Sonny Randle vs Cleveland, 1965
- 197...John Gilliam vs Pittsburgh, 1969
- 196...Roy Green vs Washington, 1984
- 192...John Gilliam vs Cleveland, 1969
- 189...Roy Green vs Dallas, 1984
- 187...Mel Gray vs New York Giants, 1975
- 183...Roy Green vs Indianapolis, 1984
- 183...Dave Stief vs Atlanta, 1978

LONGEST PUNT FROM SCRIMMAGE

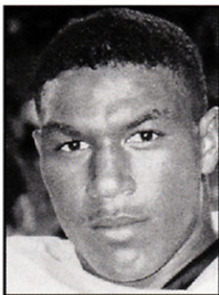
- 81.....Mike Wood vs New York Giants, 1978
- 75.....Carl Birdsong vs Philadelphia, 1981
- 69.....Jerry Stovall vs Cleveland, 1963
- 68.....Greg Carter vs San Francisco, 1987
- 67.....Carl Birdsong vs Tampa Bay, 1985
- 67.....Chuck Latourette vs Pittsburgh, 1967
- 66.....Carl Birdsong vs Green Bay, 1985
- 66.....Carl Birdsong vs Atlanta, 1981
- 66.....Larry Swider vs Baltimore, 1980
- 65.....Carl Birdsong vs Chicago, 1982

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN

- 106...Roy Green vs Dallas, 1979
- 105...Frank Seno vs New York Giants, 1946
- 105...Ollie Matson vs Washington, 1956
- 103...George Hoey vs Philadelphia, 1971
- 102...Doug Russell vs Cincinnati, 1934
- 101...Ollie Matson vs Pittsburgh, 1958
- 100...Ollie Matson vs Chicago, 1952
- 100...John Gilliam vs Green Bay, 1969

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN

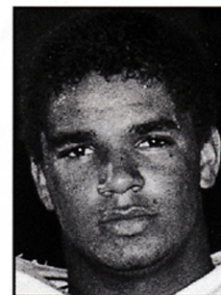
- 96.....Larry Wilson vs Cleveland, 1965
- 92.....Leo Sanford vs Pittsburgh, 1955
- 91.....Larry Wilson vs Philadelphia, 1966



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TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)

7.....Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
7.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
6.....Cotton Rieman, Phoenix Union, 1928
6.....Art Halbrook, Glendale, 1936
6.....Bill Crabtree, Agua Fria, 1952 (so)
6.....Phil Smith, Cortez, 1967
6.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, 1982
6.....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1983
6.....Art Greathouse, McClintock, 1984 (jr)
6.....Darren Woodson, Maryvale, 1986
6.....Andrew McCormick, McClintock, '90
6.....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990 (so)
6.....Skeeter Brown, Mtn. Pointe, 1994
6.....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994

TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)

38.....Brian Drew, McClintock, 1989
37.....Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
35.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
34.....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1988
34.....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1993
33.....Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
31.....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1987 (jr)
31.....Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria, 1989
31.....Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, 1995
30.....Marvin Johnson, Peoria, 1987
29.....Bob Soza, Westwood, 1966
29.....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1983
29.....Marcus Dickson, Maryvale, 1989
29.....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994

TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)

76.....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
76.....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
71.....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1991-93
63.....George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
63.....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
61.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
60.....Tim Smith, St. Mary's, 1964-67
58.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1993-95
54.....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1981-83

POINTS (GAME)

42.....Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
42.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
36.....Cotton Rieman, Phoenix Union, 1928
36.....Art Halbrook, Glendale, 1936 (jr)
36.....Bill Crabtree, Agua Fria, 1952 (so)

36.....Phil Smith, Cortez, 1967
36.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, 1982
36.....Anthony Parker, McClintock, 1983
36.....Art Greathouse, McClintock, 1984 (jr)
36.....Darren Woodson, Maryvale, 1986
36.....Andrew McCormick, McClintock, '90
36.....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990 (so)
36.....Skeeter Brown, Mt. Pointe, 1994
36.....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994

POINTS (SEASON)

228.....Brian Drew, McClintock, 1989
222.....Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
216.....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1993
213.....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, 1985
210.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
204.....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1988
200.....Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994

POINTS (CAREER)

460.....Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
456.....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
440.....Paul Shields, Paradise Valley, 1991-93
386.....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
383.....George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
378.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
376.....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972-74
368.....Tim Smith, St. Mary's, 1964-67
353.....Whizzer White, Mesa, 1944-46
348.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
346.....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1993-95

RUSHING YARDS (GAME)

358.....Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria, 1982
353.....Brian Galbreath, Cortez, 1991
352.....Joel Huerta, Coronado, 1995 (so)
344.....Brian Pringle, Sunnyslope, 1970
339.....Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972 (so)
334.....Paul Fichera, Coronado, 1990 (jr)
331.....Darnell Autry, Tempe, 1993
329.....Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
328.....Keith Huckaby, Agua Fria, 1989
327.....Jim McQuinn, Central, 1976
321.....Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1994 (jr)

RUSHING YARDS (SEASON)

2,601...Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, 1995
2,230...Tim Vining, Cactus, 1994
2,201...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1992

2,030...Tavon Cooper, Peoria, 1994
2,027...Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
2,023...Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1995
2,003...Marcus Dickson, Maryvale, 1989
1,995...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1991 (jr)
1,991...Whizzer White, Mesa, 1946
1,985...John Clayton, Horizon, 1994
1,952...Scott Shill, Corona del Sol, 1981
1,927...Bob Soza, Westwood, 1966
1,913...David Mitchell, St. Mary's, 1974 (jr)

RUSHING YARDS (CAREER)

5,669...Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990-92
5,204...Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1985-88
4,551...George Greathouse, Carver/
.....Phoenix Union, 1952-55
4,417...Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58
4,307...Whizzer White, Mesa, 1944-46
4,128...Derrick Ray, Cactus, 1986-88
4,119...Mike Brown, Saguaro, 1993-95
4,050...Ronnie Bonner, Westwood, 1972-74
4,005...Kenny Mantle, Coronado, 1992-94

CARRIES (GAME)

45.....Jose Valenzuela, Apache Jct., 1989
44.....Forrest Valora, Trevor Browne, 1975
44.....Carlos Cochrane, Ironwood, 1991 (jr)
43.....Forrest Valora, Trevor Browne, 1975
40.....Craig Amack, Tempe, 1974
40.....Ryan Christopherson, Cactus, 1989

AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (SEASON)

12.6.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955 (fr)
12.5.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1957 (jr)
12.3.....Rick Kelton, Gilbert, 1974
12.0.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1956 (so)
11.9.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1958
11.9.....Sean Reeder, Cave Creek, 1987 (jr)
11.8.....Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep, 1990 (so)
10.8.....Jerry Lamb, Chandler, 1955 (jr)
10.7.....Everett Rollins, Arcadia, 1962
10.7.....Cory Hankins, South Mountain, 1994
10.1.....Gerald Brown, Buckeye, 1975 (jr)
10.1.....Ryan Christopherson, Cactus, '88 (jr)

AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY (CAREER)

12.3.....Jerry Bridgman, Buckeye, 1955-58

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN

99.....Sammy Johnson, Mesa, 1952

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In 1989, Marcus Dickson, a recent Washington Redskin free agent, became the first fullback in Arizona history to rush for 2,000 yards (Gazette photo).

99Craig Ponczak, Gerard, 1964
 99Wayne Jones, Dysart, 1972
 99Jerry Harper, Chaparral, 1980
 99Tom Collins, Apollo, 1985
 99Randy Carr, Central, 1986
 99Phil Hayward, Deer Valley, 1993 (jr)
 99Trung Canidate, Central, 1994
 99Phil Hayward, Deer Valley, 1994
 98Marvin Davis, Tempe, 1950
 98Jim Rawlins, Tempe, 1950
 98Danny Arredondo, Tempe, 1952
 98Paul Fichera, Coronado, 1990 (jr)
 98Craig Brown, Westview, 1994

PASSING YARDS (GAME)

479Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 404Mike Makings, Scottsdale, 1971
 403Rick Johnson, Paradise Valley, 1983
 396Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
 385Rick Savale, Arcadia, 1966
 380Bob Pitre, Arcadia, 1975
 375Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 374Jason McCullough, Arcadia, 1992
 374Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 366Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 365Todd Sheridan, Arcadia, 1982
 360Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
 358Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993

PASSING YARDS (SEASON)

3,462Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 3,009Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
 2,768Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
 2,683Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
 2,646Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 2,566Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)

2,539Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1985
 2,507Kevin Stephens, Cactus, 1991
 2,352Brian Judd, Cactus, 1989
 2,233Steve Belles, St. Mary's, 1984
 2,226John Bonds, St. Mary's, 1987
 2,170Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983 (so)
 2,107Greg Abel, Horizon, 1995
 2,102Ryan Smith, Saguaro, 1995
 2,081Joe Germaine, Mountain View, 1993
 2,037Cleveland Dansby, South, 1993 (jr)
 2,033William Babb, Peoria, 1987
 2,011Cary Palmer, Mesa, 1974

PASSING YARDS (CAREER)

6,441Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95
 6,350Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
 6,346Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983-85
 6,064Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
 5,139Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1993-95
 4,916Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1992-94
 4,712Scott Molander, CDS, 1982-84
 4,596Steve Belles, St. Mary's, 1982-84
 4,394Cleveland Dansby, South, 1992-94
 4,373Kevin Stephens, Cactus, 1990-91

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (GAME)

7Tommy Scott, Gilbert, 1926
 7Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 6Duncan Brown, Mesa, 1924 (jr)
 6Charlie Beal, Mesa, 1943
 6Gary Carpenter, North, 1968
 6Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
 5Gilbert Martinez, Chandler, 1958
 5Ted Blake, Sunnyslope, 1965
 5Pete Harter, Chandler, 1965
 5Randy Holmes, Peoria, 1968

5Mike Makings, Scottsdale, 1971
 5Fred Mortensen, Tempe, 1971
 5Shawn Gilbert, Agua Fria, 1982
 5Scooter Molander, CDS, 1982
 5Jeff Zygmunt, Deer Valley, 1984
 5Chuck Levinus, Cactus, 1984
 5Lee Schrack, Tempe, 1988
 5Cory Giles, Westwood, 1991
 5Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 5Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 5Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 5Steve O'Hare, Brophy Prep, 1993
 5Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 5Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 5Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 5Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1995

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)

41Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1995
 40Tim Rattay, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 37Marty Rincon, Westview, 1993
 31Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1995
 30Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1994
 28Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1994 (jr)

TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)

83Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's, 1993-95
 58Marty Rincon, Westview, 1991-93
 58Mark Brooks, Greenway, 1993-95
 56Jonathan Beasley, Cactus, 1993-95
 51Kent Kiefer, McClintock, 1983-85
 51Cleveland Dansby, South, 1992-94

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS

99Frank Zellner to Gloyes Lemons,
Buckeye, 1955
 99Doug Stitler to Curt Reiman,
Brophy Prep, 1978
 98Ken Butler to Ralph Flores,
Sunnyslope, 1960
 98Matt Saxe to Colin Fuel,
Washington, 1993
 98Ryan Leyba to DeRonn Finley,
Marcos de Niza, 1994

RECEPTIONS (GAME)

16Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
 13Jason Birdsong, 1989 (jr)
 13David Stephens, Glendale, '90 (jr)
 12Brad Anderson, Alhambra, 1978
 12Adam Mesa, Gilbert, 1982
 12Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984
 12Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984
 12Shelby Hill, Central, 1988

RECEPTIONS (SEASON)

76Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989 (jr)
 76Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
 74Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
 68Chris Baniszewski, McClintock, 1985
 66Brant Williams, Independence, 1986
 66Tony Vining, Cactus, 1991
 65Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
 64Scott McLouth, Gilbert, 1985
 64Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
 61Bryan Snyder, Sunnyslope, 1983 (jr)
 60Bill Sorcineli, Camelback, 1964

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phoenix football '96

60.....Jake Greene, Westview, 1993

RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

148.....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
138.....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
120.....Roger Aguilar, St. Mary's, 1992-94
119.....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
117.....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, '83-85
117.....Don Yantis, Paradise Valley, 1986-88

RECEIVING YARDS (GAME)

302.....Pete Klaass, Paradise Valley, 1983 (jr)
296.....Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
260.....Keith Rawls, CDS, 1982
240.....Shelby Hill, Central, 1988
234.....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
226.....Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
225.....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1962
225.....Craig Brown, Westview, 1993 (jr)
224.....David Donahue, McClintock, 1982
220.....Danny Starr, Maricopa, 1987
220.....Todd Young, MDN, 1983 (jr)

RECEIVING YARDS (SEASON)

1,760...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
1,226...Mickey Hatcher, Mesa, 1973
1,201...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989
1,190...Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
1,188...Tony Vining, Cactus, 1991
1,180...Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
1,090...Larry Bandura, Scottsdale, 1971
1,090...Chris Baniszewski, McClintock, 1985
1,084...Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
1,039...Jake Greene, Westview, 1993
1,038...Rick Molina, Tempe, 1971
1,014...Pat Schabel, Westwood, 1984

RECEIVING YARDS (CAREER)

3,333...Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
2,508...Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
2,172...Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
2,165...Carlos Artis, Washington, 1988-90
2,011...Roger Aguilar, St. Mary's, 1992-94

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (GAME)

5.....Dwight Bennett, Glendale, 1966
4.....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
4.....Merrill Brookings, Gilbert, 1926
4.....Cecil Crouch, Mesa, 1943
4.....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1961 (jr)
4.....Jim Palmer, Scottsdale, 1962
4.....Mike Bowling, Agua Fria, 1966
4.....Dan White, West, 1967
4.....Dick Harris, Westwood, 1969 (jr)
4.....Jesus Tirado, Marcos de Niza, 1974
4.....Shawn Harris, Tempe, 1988
4.....Scott Mettham, Chaparral, 1988
4.....Mike Collins, Mt. Pointe, 1993 (jr)
4.....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
4.....Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)

21.....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1995
20.....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1995
17.....Tim Kohner, Phoenix Christian, 1994
15.....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1989 (jr)
14.....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1974 (jr)

14.....Dewey Horton, Gilbert, 1977
14.....Craig Brown, Westview, 1993 (jr)
14.....Mike Allen, Cactus, 1994
14.....David Tefteller, Phoenix Christian, 1995
13.....Murl Huff, Phoenix Union, 1924
13.....Mike Bowling, Agua Fria, 1966
13.....Rick Molina, Tempe, 1971
13.....Mike Baker, Gerard, 1974
13.....James Sosinski, McClintock, 1980
13.....David Tefteller, Phx. Christian, 1994

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)

35.....Damian Segovia, Greenway, 1993-95
29.....Speedy Hart, St. Mary's, 1973-75
26.....Jason Birdsong, Cactus, 1988-90
26.....Tariq McDonald, St. Mary's, 1994-95

INTERCEPTIONS (GAME)

5.....Dick Gwinn, Judson, 1964
4.....Ned Newell, Mesa, 1921
4.....Albert Guthrie, Mesa, 1921
4.....Seth Williams, Glendale, 1958
4.....Jack Meck, Buckeye, 1958
4.....Craig Cardon, Mesa, 1966
4.....Ralph Quintero, Gilbert, 1966
4.....Pat Farrell, St. Mary's, 1969
4.....Dick Harris, Westwood, 1970
4.....Mark Oligschlaeger, Bourgade, 1972
4.....Bret Baker, Saguro, 1974
4.....Vince Martinez, Tempe, 1981
4.....Steve McDowell, Gilbert, 1983
4.....Rich Henkel, Horizon, 1984
4.....Ty Hawkinson, Valley Christian, '90

INTERCEPTIONS (SEASON)

15.....Mike Vere, Bourgade, 1972
14.....Mickey Bell, Cactus, 1979
14.....Andy Zwingle, Peoria, 1979
13.....Shawn Benson, Mesa, 1981
13.....Scotty Malm, Phoenix Christian, 1986
12.....Phil Havens, North, 1962
12.....Bill Diple, Arcadia, 1965 (jr)
12.....Scott Hutson, Mountain View, 1983
12.....Rhon McKinney, North, 1986

INTERCEPTIONS (CAREER)

26.....Phillip Echeverria, Buckeye, '85-87
24.....Carlos Artis, Washington, 1988-90
20.....Rhon McKinney, North, 1985-86

LONGEST RETURN (INTERCEPTION)

105.....T.C. Richmond, Agua Fria, 1985 (jr)
103.....John Heffton, Moon Valley, 1980
103.....Armando Bernasconi, Seton, 1991 (jr)
102.....Quincy Fowler, St. Mary's, 1941
102.....Elby Bushong, Washington, 1961
102.....Chris Enos, Cortez, 1982
100.....Benny Garcia, Agua Fria, 1962
100.....Mike Smith, Phoenix Christian, 1962
100.....David Given, McClintock, 1975
100.....Scott Lubow, Shadow Mt., 1984
100.....Brian Fair, South Mountain, 1988 (so)
100.....Jerry Ingram, Independence, 1988
100.....Al Sparks, Maryvale, 1990 (jr)

FIELD GOALS (GAME)

4.....Lawrence Bever, Phoenix Union, 1925

4.....Phil Insalaco, Phx. Christian, 1984
4.....Joe Ackie, Carl Hayden, 1990
4.....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
4.....Andy Schiesl, Chaparral, 1993 (so)
4.....Terry Wood, Brophy Prep, 1995 (so)

FIELD GOALS (SEASON)

19.....Mike Cortright, St. Mary's, 1985
16.....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1989
15.....Jeremy Kelley, Mt. View, 1995 (jr)
13.....Phil Insalaco, Phoenix Christian, 1984
13.....Cameron Mark, Arcadia, 1993 (jr)
12.....Randy Weiskittle, Brophy Prep, 1987
12.....Kyle Bell, McClintock, 1989
12.....Mario Silva, St. Mary's, 1990
12.....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
12.....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1994 (jr)

FIELD GOALS (CAREER)

36.....Mike Cortright, St. Mary's, 1983-85
26.....Quin Rodriguez, Dobson, 1984-86

LONGEST FIELD GOAL

62.....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1989
58.....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1994 (jr)
57.....Mike Johnson, Centennial, 1995
55.....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
55.....Marcus Williams, McClintock, 1992
55.....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1995
54.....Bob Facio, Gerard, 1977
54.....Chuck Hunzinger, Deer Valley, 1984
54.....Matt Belden, Glendale, 1992 (jr)

PATS (GAME)

11.....Ed Brooks, Phoenix Union, 1914
10.....Danny White, Westwood, 1969
10.....Cleveland Colter, McClintock, 1985
10.....Darin Madrigal, Mesa, 1993

PATS (SEASON)

70.....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1994 (jr)
69.....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1987
66.....Kyle Bell, McClintock, 1989
63.....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1980
60.....Steve Rausch, Dobson, 1987
60.....Derek Lay, Maryvale, 1992 (jr)

PATS (CAREER)

142.....Kyle Pooler, Cactus, 1987-89
142.....Jim Sanson, St. Mary's, 1993-95
135.....Derek Lay, Maryvale, 1991-93
134.....Rich Groppenbacher, McC., 1982-84
128.....Don Gallardo, Cactus, 1993-95
115.....Frank Coen, McClintock, 1979-80
115.....Tony Camino, Peoria, 1985-87

LONGEST PUNT

99.....Walter Williams, Mesa, 1925
84.....John Durso, Arcadia, 1976
81.....Jerry Hammond, Red Mountain, 1994
80.....Justus Goebel, Phoenix Union, 1910
77.....Doug Pasanella, Paradise Valley, '78
77.....Matt Belden, Glendale, 1993
76.....Randy Hakes, Arcadia, 1993
75.....Oscar Reynolds, St. Mary's, 1939
75.....Whizzer White, Mesa, 1945 (jr)
75.....Dennis Goettl, Central, 1973

What if?

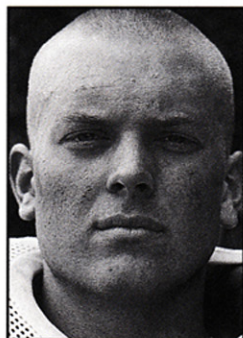
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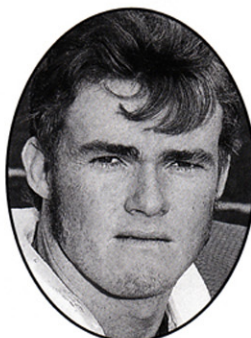
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McClintock**



**Gary Swift
Arcadia**



**Brian Murray
Salpointe**



**Glen Gresham
Phoenix Union**



**Chris Watkins
Highland**

HONORING ARIZONA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOL LINEMAN

1995 Chris Watkins, Gilbert Highland (DL)
1994 Matt Griffith, Mesa (NG)
1993 Todd Thompson, Tucson Sahuaro (DL)
1992 John Tait, Tempe McClintock (OT)
1991 Willie Walker, Tucson Desert View (DL)
1990 Grady Stretz, Tempe McClintock (DL)
1989 Mike Ciasca, Tucson Sahuaro (OT)
1988 Eric Ipock, Peoria (OT)
1987 Richard Griffith, Tucson Catalina (DL)
1986 Tim Landers, Round Valley (DT)
1985 Gary Pay, Glendale Apollo (OT)
1984 Vincent Byrd, Eloy Santa Cruz (DT)
1983 Steve Spurling, Scottsdale Horizon (C)
1982 Richard Bear, Moon Valley (DT)
1981 Frank Rudolph, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1980 Tom Briehl, Phoenix Gerard (T)
1979 Dave Wood, Phoenix Washington (DL)
1978 Doug Kellermeier, Scottsdale Coronado (DL)
1977 Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (C)
1976 Jack Housely, Phoenix Maryvale (DL)
1975 Phil Hedrick, Phoenix Maryvale (T)
1974 Jimmy Moore, Tempe Marcos de Niza (DL)
1973 Jon Abbott, Phoenix Central (T)
1972 Keith Sobraske, Scottsdale Coronado (T)
1971 Mike Dawson, Tucson (T)
1970 Glen Gresham, Phoenix Union (OT)
1969 Roger Kronberg, Tempe (OT)
1968 Fernie Mendoza, Tucson Salpointe (T)
1967 Ken Hatcher, Mesa (C)

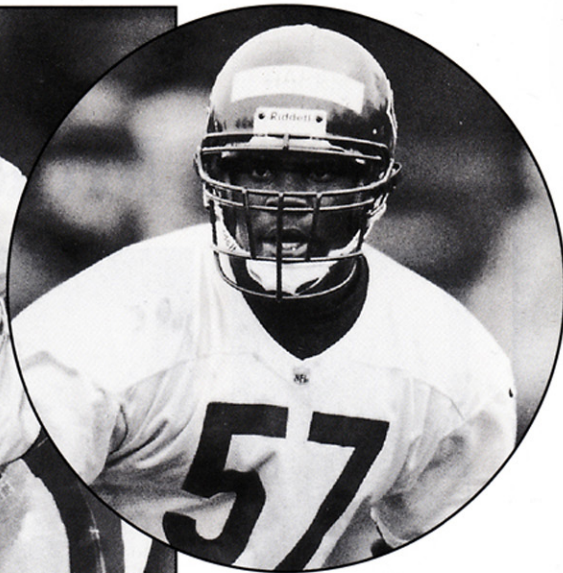
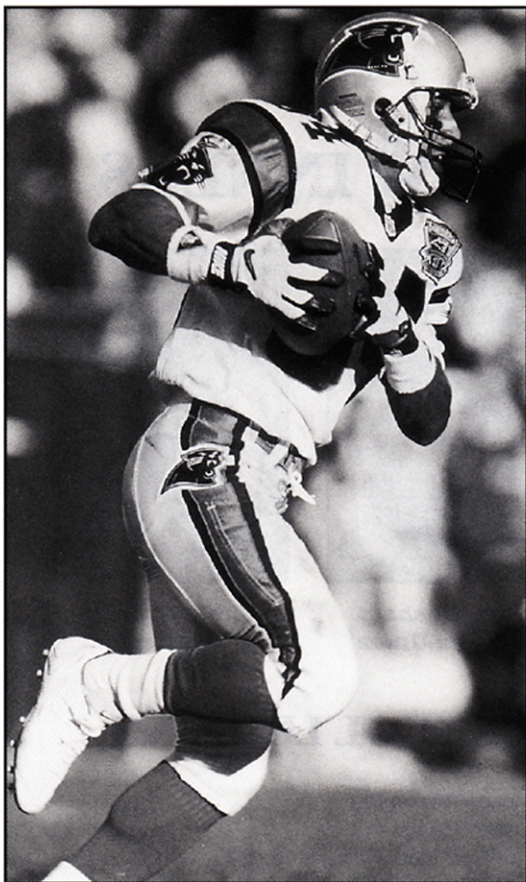
1966 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T)
1965 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T) jr.
1964 Richard Griffin, Mesa Westwood (OT)
1963 Curley Culp, Yuma (MG)
1962 (TIE) Gary Swift, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
..... Bob Bertelsen, Scottsdale Arcadia (T)
1961 Allen Thorn, Phoenix St. Mary's (C)
1960 Ted Lawrence, South Mountain (G)
1959 Dennis Couse, Tucson (T)
1958 Stacey Ostland, South Mountain (C)
1957 Wayne Magnusson, Phoenix West (G)
1956 John Vucichevich, Miami (C)
1955 Sumner Smith, Phoenix Union (T)
1954 Al Carr, Phoenix Union (G)
1953 Dick Nordmeyer, Tucson (DT)
1952 Guy Barrickman, Tucson (T)
1951 Robert Green, Phoenix Carver (T) jr.
1950 Glenn Bowers, Mesa (G)
1949 Phil Russell, Phoenix St. Mary's (T)
1948 Roy Alba, Phoenix Union (G)
1947 Bill Workman, Mesa (C)
1946 Bill Penny, Yuma (T)

BRIAN MURRAY, a 1972 Salpointe H.S. grad, was a three-year starter at Arizona, and projected as a high NFL draft pick, but was killed in a fall at Redington Pass, between the Catalina and Rincon mountains, in 1977.

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Former Arizona schoolboy stars: L-R, Carolina's Eric Guliford (Peoria), New England's Eddie Cade (Eloy Santa Cruz) and the Chicago Bears Sean Harris (Tucson High).

ARIZONA'S PRO PARADE 3RD BEST IN WEST

By Lonnie Collins

That was quite a backfield at Phoenix Maryvale in 1986. The Panthers, riding high after a playoff win over Phoenix St. Mary's, collided with Mesa Mountain View in the 5A semis. But a missed extra point ruined their dream, 21-20.

Maryvale's backfield featured junior running back Kevin Galbreath, and seniors Phillippi Sparks and Darren Woodson. All three continued their playing days at Arizona State. Today, Sparks and Woodson are in the NFL.

Down in Tucson, at Amphitheater High, head coach Vern Friedli had a decent backfield of his own. It featured Michael Bates, later an Olympic sprinter and wide receiver in the pros. They too fell to Mountain View.

"We came through a tough, tough bracket," said Mountain View head coach Jesse Parker after the '86 playoffs. "Amphi had the Bates' kid and Maryvale had more speed than anyone we played."

Arizona's pro parade continues. Last year, only two states west of the Mississippi River, California and Texas, had more former schoolboy stars on NFL

rosters than Arizona.

The Grand Canyon State, with two more alum earning Super Bowl rings, had 32 former high school players on active NFL rosters (see chart).

Defensive back Darren Woodson and center Dale Hellestrae (Scottsdale Saguro) are running out of fingers. As members of the World Champion Dallas Cowboys, Super Bowl rings have become plenty.

Surprisingly, only one former Arizona product was selected in the recent NFL draft, Northern Arizona University quarterback Jeff Lewis. The former Scottsdale Horizon product was picked by the Denver Broncos.

Although more have signed as free agents, the solo pick of Lewis was the

lowest in years. In 1995, seven Arizonan's were picked.

Surprisingly, western states with a larger population base than Arizona, such as Oklahoma, Colorado and Washington, have sent less players to the pros. Yet all three are considered exceptional high school football states.

Recently, many of the state's high profile blue-chip products have left the state to play college ball. In the past decade alone, more and more top players are enrolling at schools like Nebraska, Washington, UCLA and USC, to name a few.

Today, talented Maryvale leads the list with three active players on NFL rosters: Sparks, Woodson and Carolina Panther center Frank Garcia, the 1990 Arizona High School Athlete of the Year. If free agent Marcus Dickson, the first fullback in Arizona history to rush for more than 2,000, makes the Washington Redskins, that will give Maryvale four active players in the league. However, the single season record is five, held on numerous occasions by Phoenix South Mountain.

The defensive backfield is the most popular, with nine former Arizona prod-

"Amphi had the Bates' kid and Maryvale had more speed than anyone we played."

ucts roaming NFL secondaries. The offensive line is next with eight. Surprisingly, only two running backs in all the league played high school ball in Arizona, the Saints' Mario Bates and the new Jaguars' Ryan Christopherson.

At Tucson Amphi in 1990, Bates rushed for 2,740 yards and scored 34 touchdowns for the Class 5A runnerup Panthers. Christopherson, a big fullback from Glendale Cactus, rushed for 315 yards during a 1989 playoff win over Phoenix Washington. Ignored by local colleges, he later played at the University of Wyoming.

Five different schools had at least two grads on active NFL rosters: Maryvale, Phoenix Camelback, Tucson Sahuaro, Tucson Cholla and Tempe McClintock.

Cholla, the same high school which produced NBA star Sean Elliott, had wide receiver Vance Johnson (Denver Broncos) and rookie defensive back Mike Skurlock (St. Louis Rams) in the pros. McClintock, one of Arizona's all-time winningest football schools, had defensive back Anthony Parker (St. Louis), the 1983 player of the year, and linebacker Jason Kyle (Seattle Seahawks) in "the bigs."

Scottsdale Horizon has played in back-to-back 5A state championship games, both with Phoenix St. Mary's. The Huskies could have two grads on pro rosters this fall - defensive lineman Ty Parten, if he returns to the Bengals, and drafted quarterback Jeff Lewis, if he makes the Broncos.

Camelback had two defensive backs in the league, Kevin Miniefeld (Chicago Bears) and Darryl Morrison (Washington Redskins). Ironically, Miniefeld was a roundball star in high school, establishing a state record 924 assists between 1985-88. Then there's Muhammad Oliver, a former decathlon champ at Phoenix North who later played at Oregon. Last fall he toiled in the secondary with Morrison and the Redskins.

The Rams' Parker has played pro ball in more cities than he can remember, Well, at least three: Minnesota, Los Angeles and St. Louis. Two years ago the McClintock High Player of the Year, playing for the Minnesota Vikings, became the first defensive player in NFL history to score touchdowns in three consecutive games. He returned an interception 41 yards for a TD against Tampa Bay, a fumble 23 yards against Green Bay, and an interception 44 yards against the New York Giants.

In 1987, Parker was a member of Arizona State's championship Rose Bowl team, playing in the same secondary as future pro Eric Allen, today a defensive

PRO PARADE	
<i>The 32 Arizona schoolboy products in the NFL in 1995.</i>	
OFFENSE	
QB Rodney Peete, Philadelphia Eagles (Tucson Sahuaro).....	USC
RB Mario Bates, New Orleans Saints (Tucson Amphi).....	ASU
RB Ryan Christopherson, Jacksonville Jaguars (Cactus).....	Wyoming
WR Michael Bates, Cleveland Browns (Tucson Amphi).....	Arizona
WR Anthony Edwards, Arizona Cardinals (Casa Grande).....	N.M. Highlands
WR Vance Johnson, Denver Broncos (Tucson Cholla).....	Arizona
WR Eric Guliford, Carolina Panthers (Peoria).....	ASU
WR Sanjay Beach, Denver Broncos (Chandler).....	Colorado State
TE Richard Griffith, Jacksonville Jaguars (Tucson Catalina).....	Arizona
OL Randall McDaniel, Minnesota Vikings (Agua Fria).....	ASU
OL John Fina, Buffalo Bills (Tucson Salpointe).....	Arizona
OL Danny Villa, Kansas City Chiefs (Nogales).....	ASU
OL Todd Kalis, Cincinnati Bengals (Phoenix Thunderbird).....	ASU
OL Frank Pollack, San Francisco 49ers (Phoenix Greenway).....	NAU
OL Dale Hellestrae, Dallas Cowboys (Scottsdale Saguaro).....	SMU
OL Mike Keim, Seattle Seahawks (Springerville Round Valley).....	BYU
OL Frank Garcia, Carolina Panthers (Phoenix Maryvale).....	Washington
PK Cole Ford, Oakland Raiders (Tucson Sabino).....	USC
PK Steve McLaughlin, St. Louis Rams (Tucson Sahuaro).....	Arizona
P Jeff Feagles, Arizona Cardinals (Phoenix Gerard).....	Miami (Fla.)
DEFENSE	
DB Darren Woodson, Dallas Cowboys (Phoenix Maryvale).....	ASU
DB Anthony Parker, St. Louis Rams (Tempe McClintock).....	ASU
DB Phillippi Sparks, New York Giants (Phoenix Maryvale).....	ASU
DB Muhammad Oliver, Washington Redskins (Phoenix North).....	Oregon
DB Kevin Miniefeld, Chicago Bears (Phoenix Camelback).....	ASU
DB Toby Wright, St. Louis Rams (Mesa Dobson).....	Nebraska
DB Darryl Morrison, Washington Redskins (Phoenix Camelback).....	Arizona
DB Mike Skurlock, St. Louis Rams (Tucson Cholla).....	Arizona
DB Eddie Cade, New England Patriots (Eloy Santa Cruz).....	ASU
DL Ty Parten, Cincinnati Bengals (Scottsdale Horizon).....	Arizona
LB Sean Harris, Chicago Bears (Tucson).....	Arizona
LB Jason Kyle, Seattle Seahawks (Tempe McClintock).....	ASU
DRAFTED NEWCOMERS	
QB Jeff Lewis, Denver Broncos (Scottsdale Horizon).....	NAU

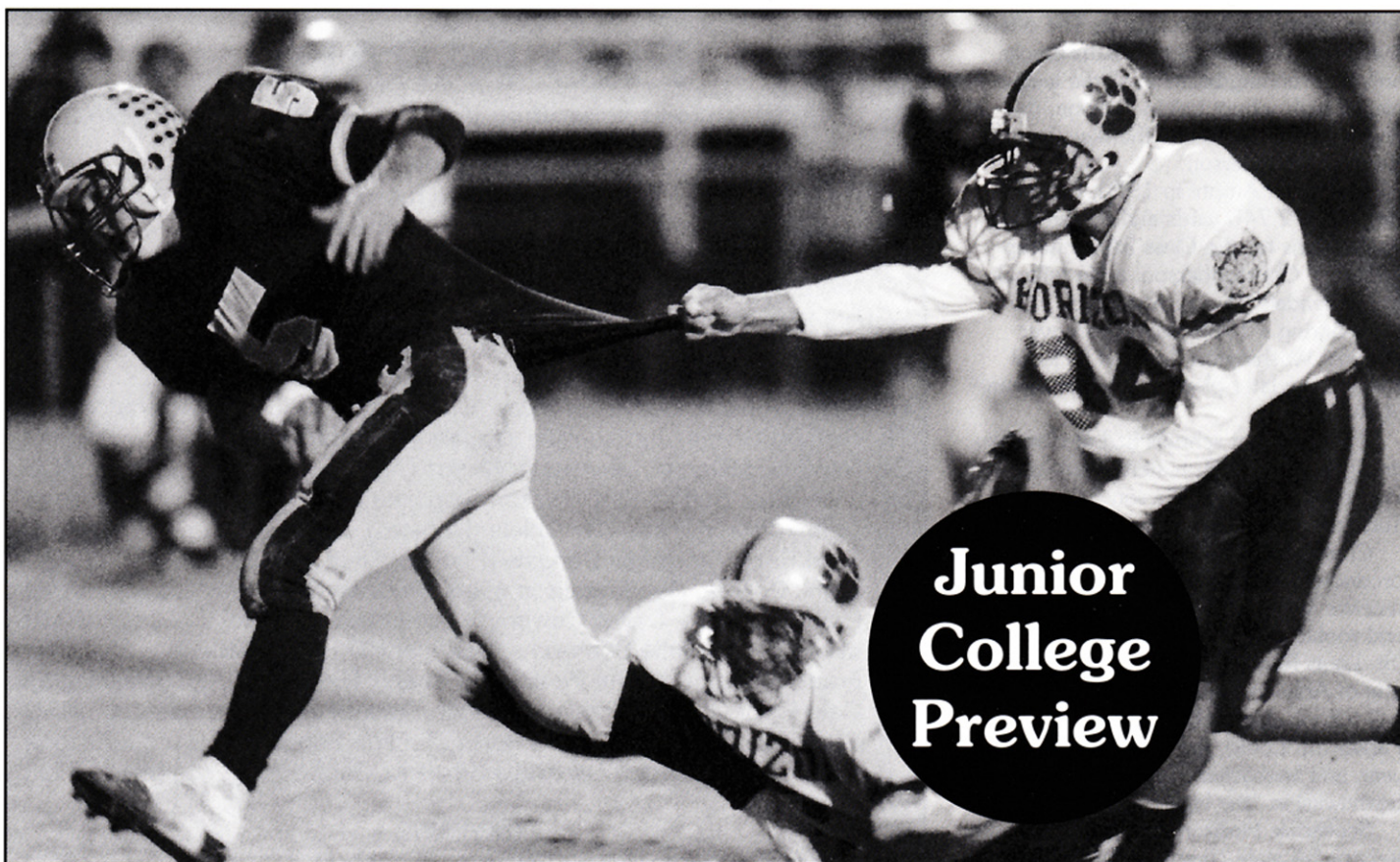
back with the New Orleans Saints. Allen played high school ball at Point Loma High in San Diego.

Was there a better high school backfield in Arizona in 1990 than the one at Class 2A Eloy Santa Cruz? Probably not. Coach Jay Denton's lethal wishbone featured fullback Joe Cade, and halfbacks Eddie Cade and Kevin Butler, Arizona's 2A Player of the Year. But the one to make it in the pros was Eddie, after a three-year career at Arizona State. Not picked in the pro draft, Cade made the New England Patriots' secondary last year as a free agent. Cade is the fifth player from the small town of Eloy to make it in the pros.

According to Gary Wright of the Seahawks, since the New York Giants signed Phoenix Union's Cecil Mulleneaux to a contract in 1932, over 200 Arizona high school products have played professional football in the United States and Canada.

Although schools from the Mesa-Tempe region seem to dominate the Class 5A playoffs, they don't dominate the talent. Tucson was the '95 leader with 10 players, followed by the Phoenix Metro Region with six.

Only two players from Tempe, McClintock's Anthony Parker and Jason Kyle, and one from Mesa, Dobson grad Toby Wright, played in the NFL last year.



From his playing days at Deer Valley High to the fields at Glendale CC, running back Phil Hayward is one tough Gaucho to bring down (Phoenix Gazette photo).

Dine Back at Helm at Arizona Western

By Bart Conley

In the wacky world of the Western States Football League, there are several major changes, and most involve **ARIZONA WESTERN**. The Matadors have a new coach (sort of) in Charlie Dine. Dine has at his disposal a coaching staff which will be on campus full time - a rarity in most Arizona junior colleges - and a revamped booster club (the El Toro Foundation) with an increased emphasis on fund-raising.

With all this, Dine has his sights set on returning the Matadors to a winning, competitive level in the Arizona Community College ranks.

But the question is, after seven straight losing seasons, is this the last, best chance for the once proud program to survive?

"I'm sure that there are people who might say that there were times before this that we thought it was our last shot," says Dr. Frank Grosbayne, AWC vice-

president for student services. "This smacks of greater legitimacy than any one I've seen before. If Dine has two dismal seasons, it'll probably take the starch out of me. That doesn't mean I won't get up, dust off and start over again. I don't ever want to be quoted as saying it's now or never.

"In truth, this has got to be it. In the worst scenario, I'm like Don Quixote. Find me another windmill to go for."

Dine rebuilt the Matadors program once before, turning a team that went 3-17 in two previous seasons into a squad which averaged seven wins per year between 1976 and 1978.

Twenty-eight lettermen from a 3-7 squad coached by Walt Criner return. Speed is a high priority, starting with 6-0, 190 pound running back Tyrone Hardy (4.5) and 5-8, 170 pound return specialist Jessie Green (4.4), also a wideout. Linemen Sam Umi (6-2, 275) and Kolumoni Fainuleli (6-4, 275) help give the Matadors a solid front. If four year

schools are looking for two burners at cornerback, Marcellus Meredith (6-1, 185) and Kevin Lee (6-0, 180) can hit and cover. But run 40 yards in 4.5 seconds.

But the key man in Western's attack is quarterback Mark Nielson (6-2, 190), a sophomore signal caller with good speed (4.8), a strong arm and solid leadership credentials. Highly touted freshmen include running backs Leroy Wheaton and Brandon Long from California, and Arizona linebackers Felix Bala (Tucson Flowing Wells), John Paul Leon (Marana) and Dustin Parra (Prescott).

With an all-freshman lineup, **EAST-ERN ARIZONA** went 3-6 in Paul Tidwell's first year at the helm. Only four sophomores contributed. "I was proud of them," said Tidwell. "We were competitive in all our games."

The Gila Monsters lost to Snow College of Utah by one point and to Mesa 14-7. They could have won both, but a lack of leadership and experience

spelled trouble.

Speed at the skill positions is a strength. Defensive back Mesene Louisdor (5-10, 178) and wideout Maurice Perry (6-3, 187) top out at 4.5 seconds. Tight end Brad Arbon (6-3, 228) joins Perry to give quarterback Sal Cardella (6-5, 225) a solid aerial game plan. Tackle Shane Block (6-4, 298) is the biggest Monster in camp. Defensively, down lineman Mike O'Haver (6-3, 263) and linebacker Brandon Chatfield (6-3, 226) could earn all-conference votes.

The beat goes on at **GLENDALE**, where the Gauchos won their fifth state crown in the past six years and went bowling in November, falling to Garden City (Ks) in the Valley of the Sun Classic. Coach Joe Kersting returns 29 players from a 7-4 campaign which included an early season 32-23 win over three-time defending Western States Football League champion Ricks College. Afterwards, Glendale lost several close games but still ended up tops in the state.

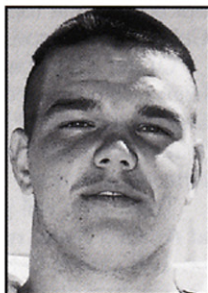
Kersting returns the biggest offensive line in the state and a good collection of running backs. Guards Marty Jones (6-3, 303) and Kyle Pettibone (6-2, 285) block for two of the toughest runners in the league, Anthony Dileo (5-11, 210) and Phil Hayward (5-11, 200). Last year Dileo averaged 8.2 yards per carry. Hayward had over 200 yards against Scottsdale. Jay Hinton (6-0, 190), a former track star at Phoenix Maryvale, adds speed.

Still, like all Glendale teams, defense is the name of the game, starting with deep back Askia Stewart (6-2, 190, 4.6), who picked off six passes. Marlin Brown (5-11, 280) and Ben Hilgart (6-3, 240) are solid linemen. Donya Mitchell (6-2, 230) and James Westercamp (6-3, 240) cover at linebacker. Jason Gladden (6-0, 190), a transfer from Scottsdale, was an all-conference punter.

Expect a different look at **PHOENIX COLLEGE**. Second year coach John Allen returns four starters on offense:



Grant Skinner,
Phoenix



Phil Bunch,
Mesa

'96 Junior College Blue-Chippers

QB...Tim Rattay	6-2, 185, So.	Scottsdale
RB...Tyrone Hardy	6-0, 190, So.	Arizona Western
RB...Anthony Dileo	5-11, 210, So.	Glendale
RB...Phil Hayward	5-11, 200, So.	Glendale
OL...Phil Bunch	6-5, 285, So.	Mesa
OL...Sam Umi	6-2, 275, So.	Arizona Western
OL...Marty Jones	6-3, 303, So.	Glendale
OL...Grant Skinner	6-4, 280, So.	Phoenix College
DL...Tim Croff	6-3, 265, So.	Scottsdale
WR...Maurice Perry	6-3, 187, So.	Eastern Arizona
LB...Chuck Van Dyke	6-0, 230, So.	Phoenix College
DB...Aazaar Abdul-Rahim	5-8, 170, So.	Mesa
DB...Askia Stewart	6-2, 190, So.	Glendale
DB...Mesene Louisdor	5-10, 178, So.	Eastern Arizona
DB...Myron McGruder	6-2, 205, Fr.	Mesa
P...Jason Gladden	6-0, 190, So.	Glendale

tackle Grant Skinner (6-4, 280), running back Steve Holmes (5-11, 180), running back Billy Kyles (5-10, 180) and wide receiver Tamar Jones (6-4, 195). Holmes (7.2 yards per carry) and Kyles (5.5 yards) should get more carries, since the Bears plan to run more. Key freshman like receiver Jason Carr (South Mountain), guard Alex Cruise (Bullhead City Mohave) and guard Josh Andrews (Tempe) could help balance the Bears offense this fall.

Four starters return on defense, too: tackle Anthony Buchanan (6-5, 260), end Ben Nadolski (6-3, 240), linebacker Chuck Van Dyke (6-0, 230) and cornerback Frank Jalbert (5-11, 180). Incoming freshmen expected to help include cornerback Ronnie Watkins (Peoria Centennial), defensive tackle Ramon Lopez (South Mountain), and linebackers Wes Latecki (Corona del Sol) and Tyler Breskin (Tempe). Phoenix hopes to rebound after last year's defensive problems resulted in a 2-8 campaign.

SCOTTSDALE lost a lot to graduation, including coach Land Jacobson, now head coach at New Mexico Western. Long time assistant Ken Giovando takes over. He's set at quarterback, if second team all-conference pick Tim Rattay sticks around for one more season. Rattay (6-2, 185) broke school records for attempts, yards and touchdown passes. He finished with 3,527 yards (230 of 401) and 27 touchdown strikes, completing 57% of his passes. Defensive lineman Tim Croff (6-3, 265), a former all-stater at Mesa Dobson, was selected to the Western States Football League first team.

At **MESA**, it's just as much a case of who graduated as who returns. Danny

Jones, the All-America receiver whose No. 80 jersey was retired, is finally gone. That's a relief for every coach in the league. Jones caught 80 passes for 1,370 yards and 13 touchdowns, NFL-like numbers in a shorter schedule. Last year Mesa finished 6-4 and second in the Arizona Conference to Glendale. During a 39-35 loss to Snow College, Jones caught 15 passes for 329 yards and four touchdowns.

Another top-flight recruiting class could send the T-birds back to the Valley of the Sun Bowl. Mesa loaded up at quarterback, signing the Phoenix Greenway tandem of quarterback Mark Brooks and receiver Damian Segovia, along with Florence signal caller Frank Jimenez, Marcos de Niza's Ryan Leyba and Trevor Browne's Carvel Whitfield.

Last year Brooks passed for 2,768 yards and 31 touchdowns. Segovia, the Class 4A long jump champ (23'), caught 76 passes for 1,760 yards and 21 touchdowns. Jimenez, the state leader with 3,103 yards, threw 26 touchdown passes.

Mesa landed a real plum in Phoenix North product Myron McGruder (6-2, 205), considered by some Pac-10 recruiters as the best defensive back in Arizona last year. An excellent basketball player, he might be the best all-round athlete in the league.

Phil Bunch, the Thunderbirds' massive offensive tackle (6-5, 295), and defensive back Aazaar Abdul-Rahim (5-8, 170), return, and were the only Mesa players other than Jones selected to the all-conference team. With 4.4 speed, wideout Siah Burley (6-0, 165) is a burner.



St. Mary's wide receiver Tariq McDonald, an Arizona State signee, caught 75 passes for 1,192 yards, while Casa Grande full-back Steve Trejo (right), another Sun Devil catch, rushed for 1,457 yards (Casa Grande Dispatch photo).

'95 Super All-State Team a Dream

By Barry Sollenberger

Talent-wise, it was another banner year for schoolboy football in the Grand Canyon State.

A record setting quarterback and a tailback rated as one of the two best players in the western United States highlight our '95 Super All-State team, selected annually by the editors and staff of *Phoenix Metro*, *Tucson* and *Flagstaff Football* magazines. This year's edition is about as good as it gets.

Ryan Kealy of Phoenix St. Mary's guided the Knights to an unbeaten season and the 5A state championship, passing for 2,682 yards and a state record 41 touchdowns.

In Class 4A, two-way back Mike Brown, the state player of the year, rushed for 2,023 yards and scored 35 touchdowns for Scottsdale Saguaro's state champions. Brown, a second team USA

Today All-American defensive back, captured both the Whizzer White Award and the Tyrone Byrd Award; the last double winner was Tempe McClintock's Cleveland Colter in 1985.

The *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, in their annual Best in the West poll, rated Brown as one of the two best schoolboy players in the region, along with two-way lineman Brad Williams of Santa Ana Mater Dei, a Notre Dame signee. Brown has committed to Nebraska.

"Arizona is one of the best kept secrets in the country," Nebraska assistant coach Ron Brown told *The Arizona*

"Arizona is one of the best kept secrets in the country."

Republic. "Playing in the Fiesta Bowl a number of years, Nebraska transplants, people who have retired and moved here, the fact we're on national television so often all leads to a great open door for recruiting."

A panel of 10 college football coaches and recruiting coordinators, voting for whom they considered the bluest of the blue chips on the West Coast, voiced their opinions of the top seniors in Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington.

Of the 18 players selected, 14 were from California and two from Arizona and Washington. Highly regarded Steve Trejo from Casa Grande was the other Arizona selection.

Trejo, who will play outside linebacker at Arizona State, rushed for 1,457 yards on 178 carries (8.2) and scored 19 touchdowns, two on pass receptions. The big Cougar, along with Mountain Pointe's Keith Brown, was the most impressive

figure in the 5A Central Region. Trejo recorded touchdown jaunts of 93, 80, 74 and 60 yards.

Joining Kealy and Brown in the dream backfield is another Brown, Mountain Pointe's Keith, a UCLA signee. This Brown rushed for a Phoenix Metro record 2,601 yards and scored 31 touchdowns for Karl Kiefer's Pride.

At the end of Kealy's bombs was wide-out Tariq McDonald, another A-State signee. McDonald latched on to a school record 75 passes for 1,192 yards and 20 touchdowns. He caught two passes for TDs in the Knights' convincing 33-7 state finals win over Scottsdale Horizon.

Speaking of Horizon, tight end Jason Moore (Arizona State) caught 19 passes in the Huskies' run-oriented offense, and was the only holdover from Horizon's '94 state championship club.

The only junior on the club, Tempe wideout Justin Taplin, can strike from anywhere. He averaged 21.8 yards per catch, with the longest an 80-yarder. He averaged 18.1 yards per carry. He returned three punts for scores, the longest 72 yards, and averaged 27.5 yards per return. On kickoffs, the Buff's game breaker, considered the Valley's top prospect for '96, averaged 23.3 yards per clip.

The kicking game is solid with St. Mary's Jim Sanson and Page's Ryan Tkalcevic on the squad. During his career Sanson, a Notre Dame signee, booted 142 extra points and 22 field goals, the longest being 58 yards. He was also an all-region defensive back for the Knights, and managed to score 23 career touchdowns, 346 points. Tkalcevic, the Sand Devils Mr. Everything, averaged 46.2 yards per punt for the 4A Grand Canyon Region champs, then signed with Northern Arizona University.

The secondary is loaded with hitters, starting with Brown, who will play that position at Nebraska, McClintock's Derrick Wheaton, Thunderbird's John Sanders and North's Myron McGruder, maybe the best of all.

Wheaton, a three year starter at McClintock, hopes to join his brother Kenny, a former Charger all-stater, at the University of Oregon, while Sanders is bound for Colorado. McGruder, who will start his trek to the top at Mesa Community College, was the big gun on a dismal 1-9 club which gave up 36.7 points per game. But he was impressive, to say the least.

During a 42-20 loss to Trevor Browne, McGruder scored on a 99-yard fumble return and tossed a 60-yard touchdown pass. The Mustangs only win came

'95 Super All-State

OFFENSE

Pos.	Player/High School/Size	College Choice
QB	Ryan Kealy, Phoenix St. Mary's, 6-2, 195	Arizona State
FB	Steve Trejo, Casa Grande, 6-3, 230	Arizona State
HB	Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro, 5-11, 185	Nebraska
HB	Keith Brown, Tempe Mountain Pointe, 6-0, 203	UCLA
TE	Jason Moore, Scottsdale Horizon, 6-6, 230, senior	Arizona State
WR	Tariq McDonald, Phoenix St. Mary's, 6-1, 175	Arizona State
WR	Justin Taplin, Tempe, 6-0, 175 (jr)	Tempe H.S.
OL	Joe Brown, Tucson Catalina Foothills, 6-6, 260	Ohio State
OL	Jason Kopydlowski, Tucson Salpointe, 6-4, 250	Arizona
OL	Bob Horbaczewski, Scottsdale Saguaro, 6-4, 262	Idaho
OL	Spencer Ray, Mesa Westwood, 6-4, 240	Ricks (Idaho) JC
OL	Deryck Miller, Peoria, 6-1, 278	Grambling
PK	Jim Sanson, Phoenix St. Mary's, 5-9, 173	Notre Dame
P	Ryan Tkalcevic, Page, 6-2, 190	Northern Arizona

DEFENSE

DB	Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro, 5-11, 185	Nebraska
DB	Myron McGruder, Phoenix North, 6-2, 205	Mesa JC
DB	John Sanders, Phoenix Thunderbird, 5-10, 166	Colorado
DB	Derrick Wheaton, Tempe McClintock, 6-1, 177	Oregon
LB	Steve Trejo, Casa Grande, 6-3, 230	Arizona State
LB	David Hageman, Phoenix Brophy Prep, 6-2, 220	Army
LB	Dominic Brunetti, Peoria, 6-2, 208	Stanford
DL	Chris Watkins, Gilbert Highland, 6-3, 255	BYU
DL	Quincy Yancy, Glendale Ironwood, 6-8, 220	Arizona State
DL	Tamar Armstrong, Arizona Boys Ranch, 6-1, 210	Arizona Western
DL	Nick Harris, Tolleson Westview, 6-4, 230	California
RS	Myron McGruder & Justin Taplin	

against Carl Hayden, a 47-7 rout of the Falcons, when he scored four touchdowns, the last an 87-yard kick return. He scored twice during a 30-28 loss to Camelback, three times in a 25-19 fall to Maryvale. One was an 83-yard punt return.

Linebacker Trejo, like Mike Brown and Taplin the squad's only two-way players, might see playing time as a freshman in college. He recorded 111 tackles (48 solo), intercepted two passes, sacked quarterbacks twice and recovered a fumble. Playing on a 5-6 team, he never left the field. Brophy Prep's David Hageman and Peoria's Dominic Brunetti (who transferred from Brophy) join Trejo at linebacker.

Big, fast defensive linemen, including the first ever all-stater from the Arizona Boys Ranch, round out the squad. Gilbert Highland's Chris Watkins, bound for BYU, landed the Brian Murray Award, given annually to the state's best interior lineman. At 255-pounds, Watkins is the

front's biggest defender, while Ironwood's 6-foot, 8-inch Quincy Yancy is the tallest. Big Nick Harris, bound for California, is the latest in a new crop of talented players from Tolleson Westview. The Ranch produced Tamar Johnson, who helped his teammates reach the 3A finals in the school's second year of varsity football.

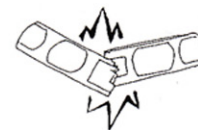
In October, East Fork halfback Jesse Hartzell rushed for 461 yards on 42 carries and scored six touchdowns during a 50-46 win over Ajo; the second most productive day in Arizona 8-man football history.

Tempe Mountain Pointe finished the '95 campaign with an 11-3 mark, adding to head coach Karl Kiefer's state leading 248-89-3 career record.

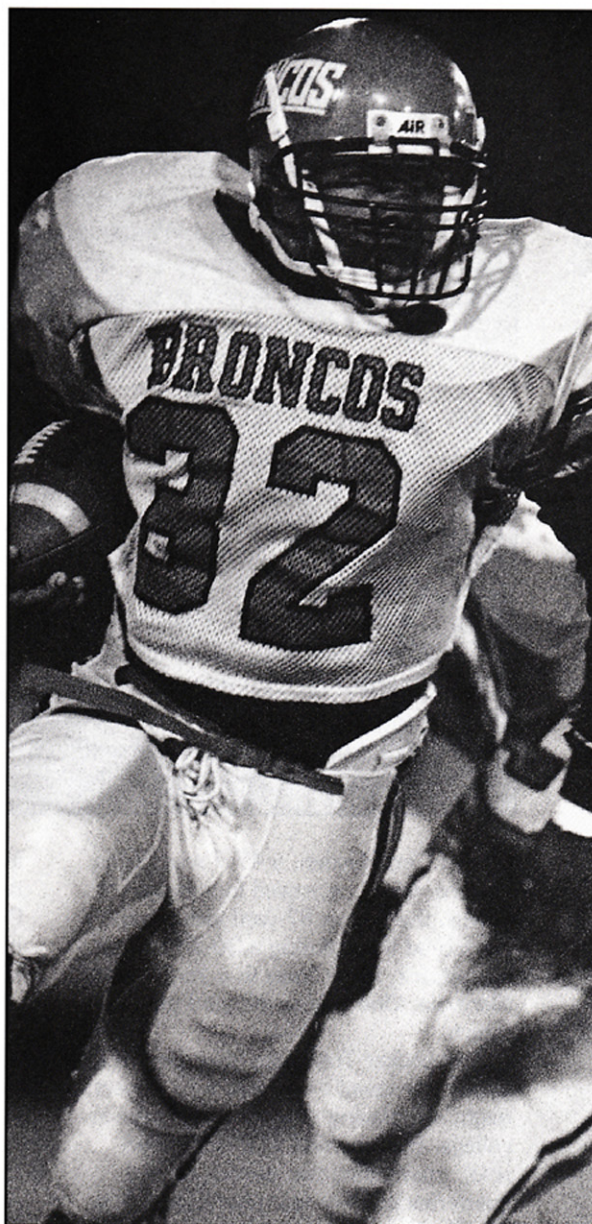
St. Mary's finished its unbeaten campaign ranked No. 16 in two national prep polls, highest ranking ever for the Knights, which finished 18th in 1967, selected by the National Sports News Service in Minneapolis. Paid attendance at last year's finals: 21,478.



ACCIDENT ADJUSTERS Salutes ARIZONA'S HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



1995MIKE BROWN
.....Saguaro (RB/DB)
1994TAVON COOPER
.....Peoria (RB/RS)
1993KEVIN SCHMIDTKE
.....Marana Mtn. View (RB)
1992MIKE MITCHELL
.....Brophy Prep (RB)
1991CHRIS HOPKINS
.....Tucson Salpointe (RB)
1990MARIO BATES
.....Tucson Amphi (RB)
1989BRIAN DREW
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1988ERIC DRAGE
.....Tucson Santa Rita (WR)
1987KEVIN GALBREATH
.....Phoenix Maryvale (RB)
1986BOBBY VALDEZ
.....Tucson Sunnyside (QB)
1985CLEVELAND COLTER
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1984STEVE BELLES
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (QB)
1983ANTHONY PARKER
.....Tempe McClintock (RB)
1982RODNEY PEETE (jr)
.....Tucson Sahuaro (QB)
1981STAN GILL
.....Flagstaff (RB)
1980FRED SIMS
.....Tucson Sunnyside (RB)
1979MOSSY CADE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (DB)
1978MIKE CADE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (RB)
1977ALVIN MOORE
.....Coolidge (TB)
.....RIKI GRAY
.....Tucson Amphi (LB)
1976GREG BRADY
.....Coronado (QB)
1975BRIAN FELIX
.....Phoenix Union (RB)
1974DAVID MITCHELL (jr)
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (RB)



**Today, former Brophy Prep Player of the Year
Mike Mitchell plays for Stanford
University. (Gazette photo)**

.....JIMMY MOORE
.....Marcos de Niza (TE/DE)
1973ROB WILSON
.....Coronado (QB/DB)
1972JESSE PARKER
.....Tucson Rincon (RB)
1971FRED MORTENSEN
.....Tempe (QB)
1970BILL CROWE
.....Tempe McClintock (LB)
1969BENNY MALONE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (RB)
1968JOE PETROSHUS
.....Tucson (HB)
1967TIM SMITH
.....Phoenix St. Mary's (RB)
1966BOB SOZA
.....Mesa Westwood (TB)
.....BILL DAWSON
.....Tucson (OT/DT)
1965ART MALONE
.....Eloy Santa Cruz (TB)
1964LEROY PEOPLES
.....Marana (HB)
1963JAMES DUGAN
.....Flagstaff (HB/DB)
1962EVERETT ROLLINS
.....Scottsdale Arcadia (HB)
1961ANDY LIVINGSTON
.....Mesa (TB)
1960TED LAWRENCE
.....South Mountain (G)
1959BOB OLSON
.....South Mountain (FB)
1958LEWIS ALBRIGHT
.....Scottsdale (HB)
1957EDDIE WILSON
.....Chandler (QB)
1956WARREN LIVINGSTON
.....Mesa (TB)
1955GEORGE GREATHOUSE
.....Phoenix Union (TB)
1954GEORGE GREATHOUSE
.....Phoenix Union (TB)
1953KENNY AYCOCK
.....Phoenix North (TB)

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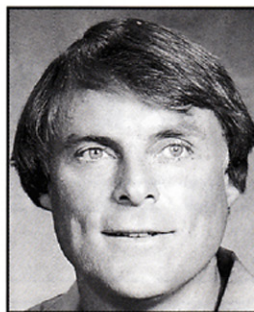
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FROM THE PUBLISHER

There's Nothing Small About St. Mary's



Bashing our state's public school programs, teachers and coaches seems to reach new heights each year, and last fall was no exception. One Phoenix sports editor, who should know better, wrote this prior to the 5A football finals between Phoenix St. Mary's and Scottsdale Horizon:

"It's always fun to see small but mighty St. Mary's and Coach Pat Farrell beat the biggest schools in the state."

This is proof that not all funny journalism is reserved for the comic section. This writer was partially correct. Last year St. Mary's was mighty, one of the strongest football teams the Green & Gold has produced in years. If this writer was talking about the physical makeup of the Knights - a club which produced thirteen 200-pounders and three bona fide blue-chip college football prospects - it's obvious she hadn't been to a St. Mary's game.

Or was it the school's small enrollment?

The size of the student body at St. Mary's - 679 boys and girls - has absolutely nothing to do with the success of the Knights' football program.

Under the present system, with the current coaching staff, St. Mary's would be a state power with a student body of only 100 boys. Private American high schools like St. Mary's, Phoenix Brophy Prep, Anaheim Servite or Cleveland St. Ignatius have far reaching enrollment boundaries than the majority of the public schools they compete against. In the past, St. Mary's has produced all-state football players who lived in Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Glendale or Tempe. This is how the system works in Arizona.

You can't fault a parent for wanting to send their son across town to get a Catholic education. But I do fault members of the media who continue to bash the coaches in the public schools each time they're beaten by "little" St. Mary's in a football game.

It's insulting to the profession.

In my lifetime the biggest change in American high school sports is that years ago the nation's premier programs were in public schools. Today they reside in private schools. In Ohio, for example, powerhouse teams like Massillon Washington and Canton McKinley have been replaced by the likes of Cincinnati Moeller or Cleveland St. Ignatius. In California, once mighty San Diego High or Long Beach Poly now take a back seat to Concord De La Salle or Bishop Amat.

In the past three decades, St. Mary's has been blessed with three exceptional head coaches - Ed Doherty, Pat Lavin and Pat Farrell - who have kept the program and tradition at the level we see it today: One of the most successful high school football programs in the Southwestern United States.

There's nothing small about it.

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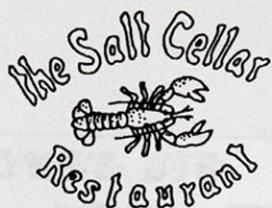
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SPORTS QUIZ

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW FOOTBALL ...

1) Two years ago, this future St. Louis Ram (photo at right) won the Lou Groza Award as the nation's best college kicker. Who is he and what Arizona high school did he attend?

2) This is the only school in the Pac-10 that USC doesn't have a winning record against in football:

- a) Arizona State
- b) Washington
- c) UCLA
- d) Stanford
- e) Oregon

3) This is the only active Arizona high school coach to win both 200-plus games and lose more than 100:

- a) Pat Farrell, St. Mary's
- b) Karl Kiefer, Mountain Pointe
- c) Jerry Loper, Chandler
- d) Bill Mitton, Trevor Browne
- e) Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi

4) Last year, former Tempe High half-back Darnell Autry (Northwestern University) finished fourth in the balloting for the Heisman Trophy. What former Arizona schoolboy star once finished runnerup in the race for the famed award?

- a) Whizzer White, Mesa
- b) Danny White, Westwood
- c) Rodney Peete, Tucson Sahuaro



Before kicking in the NFL, this former Arizona high school star won the Lou Groza Award.

- d) Mario Bates, Tucson Amphi
- e) Art Malone, Eloy Santa Cruz

5) Which one of these famed linebackers did not attend Phoenix Union High School:

- a) Armando Sanchez

- b) Fred Carr
- c) Byron Evans
- d) Larry Gordon
- e) Floyd Smith

6) True or false? The paid attendance (21,478) at the 1995 Class 5A finals between St. Mary's and Horizon was the largest crowd to ever watch an Arizona high school game.

7) True or False? Today, excluding California and Texas, no state west of the Mississippi River sends more players into the NFL than Arizona.

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- 1) Steve McLaughlin, Tucson
- 2) ASU
- 3) Jerry Loper
- 4) Rodney Peete
- 5) Byron Evans
- 6) False
- 7) True

ANSWERS

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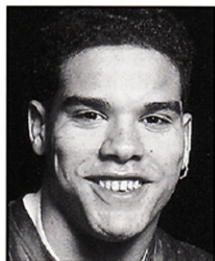
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We Salute The Tempe City High School Players of the Year

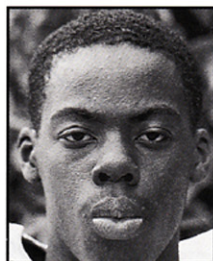
1995 Keith Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1994 Skeeter Brown, Mountain Pointe, RB
1993 Darnell Autry, Tempe, RB/DB
1992 Kenny Wheaton, McClintock, DB
1991 Armon Williams, Valley Christian, QB/DB
1990 Andrew McCormick, McClintock, RB/DB
1989 Brian Drew, McClintock, RB/RS
1988 Dan-iel Taplin, Tempe, TE/DE (jr.)
1987 Bart James, McClintock, DB/K
1986 Willy Lira, Marcos de Niza, QB
1985 Cleveland Colter, McClintock, WR/DB
1984 Rich Groppenbacher, McClintock, WR
1983 John Walker, Marcos de Niza, QB
1982 Shawn Patterson, McClintock, T
1981 Glenn Dennard, Corona del Sol, WR
1980 Jimmy Williams, Tempe, LB
1979 Arthur Reeves, Marcos de Niza, RB
1978 Matt Palacio, McClintock, LB
1977 David Hinds, McClintock, RB
1976 Andy Arrendondo, McClintock, RB
1975 Ronnie Washington, McClintock, WR
1974 Jimmy Moore, Marcos de Niza, TE
1973 Preston Dennard, Marcos de Niza, WR
1972 Herbie Ramirez, McClintock, WR
1971 Fred Mortensen, Tempe, QB
1970 Bill Crowe, McClintock, LB
1969 Ed Gaicki, McClintock, RB



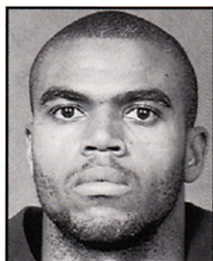
Mountain Pointe's Keith Brown, now at UCLA, scored 31 touchdowns (Todd Lillard photo).



Darnell Autry
Tempe



Kenny Wheaton
McClintock



Armon Williams
Valley Christian



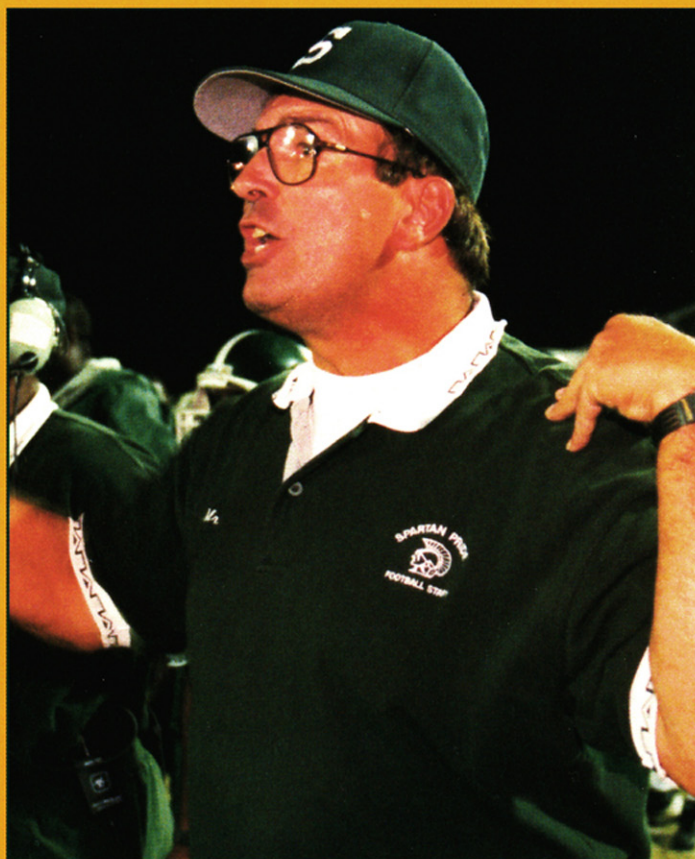
Preston Dennard
Marcos de Niza

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All local high schools in 1996!"**

Arizona Coach of the Year

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1995Richard Gray, Arizona Boys Ranch
 1994Doug Shaffer, Scottsdale Horizon
 1993Mike Morgan, St. Johns
 1992Jim Beall, Snowflake
 1991Tom Wheatley, Agua Fria
 1990Jeff Scurran, Tucson Sabino
 1989Gary Venturo, Tempe Corona del Sol
 1988Jerry Loper, Mesa Westwood
 1987Mike Clark, Mesa Dobson
 1986Jim Rattay, Mesa
 1985Jim Bevell, Scottsdale Chaparral
 1984Pat Farrell, Phoenix St. Mary's
 1983Jesse Parker, Mesa Mountain View
 1982Earl Putman, Moon Valley
 1981Richard Gray, Scottsdale Horizon
 1980Karl Kiefer, Tempe McClintock
 1979Vern Friedli, Tucson Amphi
 1978Dan Dunn, Gilbert
 1977Jim Russum, Casa Grande
 1976Ed Anderson, Scottsdale Coronado
 1975Jerry Loper, Tucson Amphi
 1974Bill Epperson, Flagstaff Coconino
 1973Van Howe, Tucson Palo Verde
 1972Harvey Keeney, Miami
 1971Ollie Mayfield, Tucson
 1970Ed Hubbard, Pima
 1969Ray Laing, Phoenix Central
 1968Ike Sharp, Douglas
 1967Ed Doherty, Phoenix St. Mary's
 1966Lonnie Foster, Eloy Santa Cruz
 1965John Mallamo, Tucson
 1964Emil Nasser, Winslow



Arizona Boys Ranch head coach Richard Gray.

1963Royal Price, Mesa
 1962Bob Hendricks, Scottsdale Arcadia
 1961Lou Farber, Tucson Pueblo
 1960Edgar "Mutt" Ford, Mesa
 1959Fred Bingham, Sunnyslope
 1958Phil Kreuger, Yuma Union
 1957Vern Braasch, Phoenix West
 1956John Zucco, Tempe



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